MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Military, Security Situation -- SAM batteries situated inside Syria unsuccessfully fired missiles at Israeli aircraft patrolling the Al-Biqa' Valley on 31 October, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. Israel regards this as a severe violation of the cease-fire, he stressed. A Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine spokesman said the Palestinians in Al-Biqa' are preparing to confront an Israeli attack, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Palestinian sources cited by QNA said the Israelis have recently established surface-to-surface missile bases on Al-Baruk Mountain, which overlooks Al-Biqa' from the west. Meanwhile, an Israeli crane driver died in a 29 October ambush near 'Alayh and one person was killed and five others were wounded by a rocket attack on an Israeli bus in Sidon late on 30 October, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios.

The Lebanese Army clashed with Progressive Socialist Party militias in the 'Alayh region on 31 October after the army had reinforced its presence in the area in order to find gunmen responsible for killing a Lebanese soldier, according to Bierut radio reports. Christian militia withdrew from the area over the weekend, Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Talks on Withdrawal -- After meeting with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper on 30 October, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan indicated that the U.S. side had approved Lebanon's demand that no joint committee should be set up to negotiate the withdrawal of foreign forces but that the talks should continue through the joint Lebanese-Israeli Military Committee set up after the Israeli invasion, Beirut radio reported. After noting that the United States is participating in all the current negotiations, Al-Wazzan said the Lebanese have already started contacts with the PLO and will undoubtedly contact Syria. Earlier, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir said in a Radio Monte Carlo interview that "no one" has yet talked with the PLO about the withdrawal of Palestinian forces from Al-Biqa' and the north.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir meanwhile warned that the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon is likely to be delayed by Syrian violations of the cease-fire, Jerusalem radio reported.

Al-Jumayyil Morocco Visit -- President Amin al-Jumayyil left Beirut for Morocco in response to an invitation from King Hassan II, Beirut radio reported on 1 November. According to Riyadh radio, Al-Jumayyil will meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for a Lebanese-Palestinian summit supervised by King Hassan. However, Voice of Lebanon radio said Al-Jumayyil will not meet with 'Arafat in Morocco. The president's visit has nothing to do with his projected Arab tour, which he will not undertake unless progress on the withdrawal of foreign forces is made, the radio reported.

National Movement -- the National Movement has decided to halt its activities until further notice, Voice of Lebanon radio reported citing sources close to Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt.

Syria

Syria will meet all conditions and support any development that will enhance its relations with Lebanon, President Hafiz al-Asad stressed in an interview with the magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI broadcast by Damascus radio. Al-Asad denied reports of differences between Syria and the PLO and when asked for his opinion of a possible Jordanian-Palestinian confederation the Syrian leader said his country supports unity between two or more Arab sides "whether we are in agreement or disagreement with these parties or some of them." Arguing that all serious attempts to achieve peace in the Middle East are doomed to failure

unless the United States limits Israel's military development by cutting arms supplies to the Israelis, Al-Asad reaffirmed that the Arabs must achieve a military balance with Israel, "and this means between Syria and Israel." While Syrian military power is strong in some respects, he said, Syria is now overcoming shortcomings in other fields. He admitted that Syria lost some Soviet-made T-72 tanks to Israeli rockets and airstrikes during the summer battles in Lebanon, but asserted that the T-72 is the best tank in the world. He also claimed the Israelis have admitted that 23 of their aircraft were hit in the Israeli-Syrian air battles over Lebanon. Regarding Syria's friendship with the Soviet Union, Al-Asad said that although the Syrians "sometimes feel that we are in need of some types of weapons," this does not diminish the importance of Soviet support for Syria.

PLO

'Arafat on Arms, Reagan -- In an interview given to TANJUG during his 2-day visit to Yugoslavia, PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat said that the Palestinian fighters currently living in various Arab countries will be "rearmed with modern weapons by their host countries" as a result of agreements he recently signed. While accusing President Reagan of making his Middle East proposals prior to the Fes summit in an effort to undermine the meeting and regretting that the plan "completely neglects" the aspirations of the Palestinian people, 'Arafat stated that the Reagan plan has "some positive elements;" for example, it does not accept Israeli annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. 'Arafat's political adviser Khalid al-Hasan told Radio Monte Carlo that while there is a "gap" between the Fes summit resolutions and the Reagan plan, "it is important to find a common denominator."

Popular Conference -- The Palestinian popular conference to be held before the Palestinian National Council (PNG) meeting in early November is expected to be held in "a European state," according to a Radio Monte Carlo interview with PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir. Al-Wazir stated that the European venue is planned in order to foil Israel's attempts to prevent the Palestinians in the occupied territories from attending. If they still are unable to attend, the conference will be held in the "same place as the PNC," Al-Wazir stated.

Israel

West Bank Settlements -- Despite Jerusalem radio reports that Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens has urged the prime minister to freeze the West Bank settlement program, Arens said in an interview with the radio that he opposes freezing settlements. Meanwhile, a subcommittee of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs decided to speed up the establishment of six new settlements in the area, Jerusalem television noted.

Massacre Inquiry -- An Israeli tank officer testified to the commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre that he saw Phalangists killing civilians on the morning of 17 September and reported this to his superiors, whose initial reaction was that the IDF should not intervene, Jerusalem radio reported. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon had earlier testified to the commission that he first learned about the massacres on the evening of 17 September, according to the transcript of Sharon's public testimony issued by the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

Egypt submitted an offical memorandum to Israel on 31 October asking the Israelis not to open their newly completed hotel in Tabah, MENA reported. The memorandum accused the Israelis of violating the Egyptian-Israeli agreement of 25 April, which stipulated that work on any existing installations in the area would be suspended. To open the hotel would also imply sovereignty, the memorandum stated, and this would violate the agreement that no side shall have sovereignty over Tabah during the period of dispute.

After the Israeli Cabinet discussed the Egyptian request, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir sent a reply to his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hasan 'Ali which stated that Israel is willing to discuss the Tabah issue, but only wit. in the framework of comprehensive negotiations covering all aspects of Israeli-Egyptian relations, IDF radio reported. Jerusalem radio said the Israelis have decided to open the hotel in Tabah within a few days. Noting that the Egyptians have demanded the resumption of negotiations over Tabah, the radio said Israel would be prepared to negotiate the disputed area if the Egyptians "reestablish the kind of ties that existed prior to Operation Peace for Galilee," including the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel. Meanwhile, Israeli political sources cited by 'AL HAMISHMAR alleged that Egypt's proposed air maneuvers following the recent anti-Israeli statements in Cairo introduce a "militaristic tone" to Israeli-Egyptian relations.

Egypt

Relations with U.S. -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz sent a "positive" reply to Foreign Minister 'Ali's meesage to him on the Tabah issue, MENA reported. 'Ali will convey a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Ronald Reagan when he visits the United States from 11 to 13 November, MENA noted.

Relations with USSR -- The Kuwaiti weekly AL-HADAF claimed Egypt and the USSR have renewed contacts to restore their severed relations. The report also noted that Egypt has asked to purchase heavy tanks from the Soviet Union, KUNA reported.

Air Maneuvers -- Delegations from seven Arab states will attend the air force's golden jubilee maneuvers in the western desert on 1 November, MENA reported. While MENA said President Mubarak would attend the maneuvers, which will feature live ammunition, Beirut radio reported that Mubarak canceled his plan to attend in order to attend a political meeting.

'Ismat as-Sadat -- Late President Anwar as-Sadat's younger brother 'Ismat as-Sadat is in custody pending an investigation into the origin of his wealth, AFP reported.

Sudan

Sudan will not participate in the OAU Ministerial Council meetings or the OAU summit conference scheduled to be held in Tripoli in November, SUNA reported.

Libya

At the end of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit to the PRC, the Libyan and Chinese leaders signed an agreement to establish a Libyan-Chinese joint committee to develop bilateral economic, scientific and technical cooperation, Tripoli radio reported. Al-Qadhdhafi subsequently flew to Pyongyang for talks with DPRK President Kim Il-song, the radio noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Activities -- Exchanges of fire continued on a number of fronts, particularly in the southern and western regions, according to military communiques issued by both sides. Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces retained "total control" of their positions in the southern region following clashes on 30 and 31 October.

Good Offices Negotiations -- In a statement published in AL-JAZIRAH AL-MASA'IYYAH, Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti "categorically denied" that the Good Offices Committee has reached a deadlock in its efforts to negotiate an end to the Iran-Iraq war, SPA reported.

Kuwait

Kuwait protested to Iran on 30 October over the latter's information campaigns against it, KUNA reported. A Kuwaiti official told the Iranian ambassador that Kuwait cannot allow Iran to exploit religious occasions to create unrest and sectarian feuds. Earlier, the Iranian ambassador protested to Kuwait over the behavior of Kuwaiti police in dispersing processions by Shi'ites mourning the martyrdom of Imam Husayn, Tehran radio reported. Meanwhile, an explosion rocked a Kuwait City suburb on 30 October but caused no casualties, KUNA noted.

Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq said his talks with Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi on 1 November were "extremely cordial" and paved the way for better relations with India, Delhi radio reported.

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AL-HASAN INTERVIEWED ON U.S.-ARAB TALKS

JN291910 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1735 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Interview with Khalid al-Hasan, political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, carried in the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow" by radio news director Antione Nawfar -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brother Khalid, I won't be disclosing a secret if I say that you are still in the United States. What exactly are you doing there? Are you continuing talks with U.S. figures?

[Answer] The atmosphere now prevailing in the United States, due to the Congressional election campaigns, does not permit any kind of talks. However, it is necessary to contact our Arab brothers at the United Nations concerning the continued session of the UN General Assembly.

[Question] But have you met U.S. officials during your trips between New York and Washington?

[Answer] This question should be addressed to the U.S. administration.

[Question] How do you assess the results of the first contact between an Arab delegation and Washington?

[Answer] One can say that this is the beginning of a positive dialogue in an atmosphere of joint understanding of the common stands and differences of both sides. Furthermore, this visit could mark the beginning of an Arab-U.S. dialogue that will or will not produce results, depending mainly on the differences between the stands of both sides.

[Question] Can you brief us on the atmosphere that prevailed during the talks?

[Answer] It was an atmosphere of frankness and realism. Each side outlined its stand in a very clear and frank manner. The U.S. side underlined the seriousness in its moves to bring peace to the Middle East, its adherence to the Reagan initiative and its inability to recognize the PLO unless the latter recognizes UN Resolution 242. The U.S. side stated that if the PLO recognizes this resolution a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue will begin immediately. Hence, it is clear that the U.S. side insists that the PLO cannot take part in any negotiations unless it recognizes the aforementioned resolution.

The Arab side, on the other hand, underlined the fact that the PLO is the Palestinian people's legitimate representative and is the sole authorized side capable of speaking in the name of the Palestinians and of discussing any subject related to the Palestinian cause.

The second point was the relationship between the Fes summit resolutions and President Ronald Reagan's initiative. Although the Americans have not rejected the Fes summit resoltuions, it is obvious that there is a gap between these resolutions and the Reagan plan and that it is important to find a common denominator between the two so they may result in something practical that can be translated into reality.

Those were the two main differences that appeared during the talks.

[Question] Were there any agreeing viewpoints?

[Answer] The two sides underlined their seriousness, although each side's seriousness stemmed from its own stand without completely rejecting the other side's stand. There is a desire to try to reach some kind of a stand to end the current stalemate.

Therefore, the Arab side raised several questions regarding the Reagan initiative. It was later agreed that those questions would be included in an inquiry memorandum the Arabs will send to the U.S. administration and this will mark the beginning of a dialogue until the Arab delegation completes its visits to the capitols of the UN permanent [Security Council] member states, namely Paris, London, Beijing and Moscow. It will be important to hold an Arab summit conference or meeting regarding the results of these visits to make the appropriate decisions because the differences that appeared during the talks [in Washington] and the means of tackling these differences demand a new Arab decision.

[Question] Do you expect an Arab summit conference to be held in the near future?

[Answer] If there is real seriousness in dealing with this matter, then an urgent Arab summit conference becomes a must in order to discuss the results of the meetings that will take place. If a summit meeting is not possible, then it will be necessary to hold a meeting on the prime ministers or foreign ministers level to reach some kind of stand on this issue.

[Question] It seems that the Arab delegation was careful not to embarrass Washington. It has also been said that the Arab delegation promised Washington an imminent Palestinian initiative. What could this initiative be? An amendment of the Palestinian charter or an official recognition of the UN resolutions?

[Answer] There has absolutely not been anything like that.

[Question] Absolutely?

[Answer] The Arab delegation has not made any promises on a Palestinian initiative. However, the talks dealt with the PLO's stance on UN Resolution 242 since this is the U.S. condition to start any dialogue with the PLO. It is natural for the PLO to discuss this and it will be discussed in the PLO's coming meeting or even in the meeting of the Palestine National Council.

[Question] Did you notice any solidarity among the members of the Arab delegation that visited Washington, or was there any discord?

[Answer] There wasn't solidarity in the absolute sense of the word, but there was complete desire to have solidarity. Despite some differences, the delegation managed to avoid them in the public talks.

[Question] What is the nature of the Syrian-Palestinian relations nowadays?

[Answer] Regardless of the status of these relations, both sides must work to achieve the highest level of coordination.

[Question] Is the issue of authorizing Jordan to speak on behalf of the Palestinians still valid?

[Answer] It is valid as far as the Americans are concerned. The Americans were asked: If you really accept the legitimacy of the PLO's authorization to Jordan, then why do you reject the legitimacy of the PLO speaking in the name of the Palestinian people? However, these are issues not related to the legal and controversial aspects. They are actually related to political facts and stand that, consequently, demand political logic to tackle them. Eventually, the results stemming from this or that stand must unravel the knot.

[Question] One last question. Why were you personally selected to represent the PLO in the Arab delegation?

[Answer] You will have to ask Brother Yasir 'Arafat.

[Question] Don't you have any idea?

[Answer] [laughter] It is true that I have spent a long period of intensive work in the Western world. However, this was an order from the leadership, and I could not do anything but implement it.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Khalid al-Hasan.

'ARAFAT TO MEET AL-JUMAYYIL IN MOROCCO

LD010808 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in Morocco today to participate in a Parlestinian-Lebanese summit held under the supervision of His Majesty King Hassan II. This will be the first meeting between 'Arafat and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil since 'Arafat's departure from Beirut.

'Arafat will be accompanied by a high-level Palestinian delegation. Palestinian-Lebanese relations after the withdrawal of the Resistance from Beirut will be discussed.

KUNA: 'ARAFAT TO CHAIR 1 NOV TUNIS CONFERENCE

LD301054 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1023 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Amman, 30 Oct (KUNA) -- A high-level Palestinian source told KUNA here today that the PLO Executive Committee will hold a plenary session in Tunis on Monday under the chairmanship of Yasir 'Arafat. The source added that the chairman of the Palestine National Council and the council's Secretariat will participate in the meeting which will "decide on the time and place of the extraordinary meeting of the Palestine National Council [opening quotation marks as received].

The source pointed out that the council will discuss a number of important issues pertaining to the recent developments in the area and the PLO's future moves, and the planned formula for the establishment of a confederation comprising Jordan and the PLO.

Members of the PLO Executive Committee in Jordan are preparing to leave for Tunisia to attend the meeting.

PALESTINIANS PREPARING AGAINST AL-BIQA' ATTACK

NC310701 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0545 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharaf, spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has said that the armed Palestinians on the Al-Biqa' plain are getting ready to confront an expected Isareli attack against them. He added that the armed Palestinians will not yield to U.S. pressures aimed at getting them to leave the north and Al-Biqa'. He emphasized that the Syrian forces and the communist and leftist organizations are cooperating with the armed Palestinians.

PLO CENTRAL RADIO STATION TO BEGIN TRANSMISSION

JN310741 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 31 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Amman, 31 Oct (QNA) -- Nabil 'Amru, director of the PLO central radio station, has stated that this radio will tomorrow, Monday, begin its experimental transmission from Baghdad.

He added that the radio's full transmission will start at the beginning of next year and will focus its attention on our people in the occupied homeland.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC'S BISHARAH ON UPCOMING MINISTERIAL SESSION

GF311805 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Manama, 31 Oct (WAKH) -- GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah arrived here this afternoon to participate in the meeting of the GCC ministerial council, which will begin here tomorrow. 'Abdallah al-Ghuwayz, the GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs, arrived on board the same plane to attend the meeting.

On arrival, 'Abdallah Bisharah declared that during its meetings the ministerial council will discuss a number of political, security, economic, legislative and administrative issues. He said the council will discuss the agenda for the GCC summit in detail. He added that the questions under discussion are many and varied. He said there are matters and issues to be settled, issues to brief the world on and issues on which instructions and directives have to be provided.

He affirmed that the ministerial council will take into consideration the new developments in the region, especially the agreement recently signed between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY, saying that this agreement is a historic step whose results will become apparent in the near future. In this regard, he affirmed that these results began with the disappearance of tension in the Arabian Peninsula. Therefore, this agreement is considered a historic turning point toward unity of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula and will represent the unity of the land as well.

He expressed his belief that the ministerial council will discuss this magnificent achievement in addition to the developments following Fes summit, the developments in the Palestinian issue, the situation in the Gulf region and the continuation of this situation and its relation to security and stability in the Gulf and other issues.

Bisharah denied that there will be surprises during the meetings of the ministerial council and the GCC summit and said: We say that the Abu Dhabi summit created the GCC and the Riyadh summit created the beginning of economic fusion and the beginning of movement toward economic fusion. He expressed hope that the Bahrain summit will represent the march on intensified economic fusion. He said: In addition to that, economic fusion requires security protection that safeguards its continuation and stability, because we do not know what is going to happen in the future.

PDRY, OMANI OFFICIALS DISCUSS AGREEMENT

GF291414 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Oct (WAKH) -- PDRY Foreign Affairs Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali has stressed that if the ratification of the recent agreement between his country and Oman does not take place he will have nothing to do with any other commitments of his country's government with other countries.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti weekly AL-HADAF, he said that his country has the right to do what is commensurate with its welfare and the welfare of the region's states and that there is nothing contradictory in this.

In a statement to the same paper, PDRY Ambassador to Kuwait 'Ali 'Aydarus Yahya expected relations between Aden and Muscat to take significant and large steps after the completion of the agreement.

He said the ratification of any agreement is subject to the rules and regulations set forth by the government and the party, so that any commitment will be within the framework of a long-term political strategy.

In a statement to the same paper, Omani Ambassador to Kuwait Sa'ud Salim al-'Ansi said it will not be necessary to hold another meeting to exchange ratification documents on this agreement because the exchange of such documents took place during the recent meeting between the two countries' foreign affairs ministers.

OMAN

'UMAN PRAISES RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT WITH PDRY

GF301346 Doha QNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Muscat, 30 Oct (QNA) -- An Omani newspaper has praised the recent agreement on normalizing relations between the sultanate and the PDRY. The paper explained that this agreement has come at a time when the region needs to live in peace, security and stability.

The newspaper 'UMAN noted in its editorial today the threats confronting the region and said these threats necessitate viewing wisely and calmly the disagreements that exist among the region's states so that these differences do not continue to hamper all prosperity for security and stability.

The newspaper 'UMAN stressed that the agreement indicates the success of Gulf mediation in solving problems among the region's states despite the GCC's young age. The paper expressed hope that this agreement will be a good introduction for maintaining stability for the region's peoples.

MILITARY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CAIRO CELEBRATION

GF291744 Manama WAKH in English 1720 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Muscat, Oct 29 (WAKH) -- An Omani military delegation headed by Colonel Malallah Rustum as-Sadiqi left Muscat today for Cairo to participate in the celebration of the Egyptian Air Force Day.

During the celebration, Egypt will fly its first locally made Arab war plane Alpha-Jet.

In a predeparture statement, Colonel Rustum expressed his satisfaction over the participation of the Omani delegation in this celebration.

SAUDI ARABIA

MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA DELIVERS MESSAGE TO FAHD

GF301506 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this afternoon received M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, who delivered to him a message from Moroccan King Hassan II.

The meeting was attended by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and head of the National Guard; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and Zayn al-Abidin el Alaoui, Moroccan ambassador to the kingdom.

The Moroccan foreign affairs minister arrived in Jidda this morning. He was received by a number of officials.

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON 2-DAY VISIT

LD292158 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2140 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Jidda, 29 Oct (SPA) -- The foreign minister of Brazil, Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, arrived in Jidda tonight on a 2-day visit to the kingdom. At the airport he was met by the foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal the Brazilian ambassador, Celso Diniz, and a number of officials.

Meets With Counterpart

GF301319 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal this morning met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro.

Bilateral relations, ways to develop them, developments in the region and issues of joint interest were discussed during the meeting.

KING FAHD, SENIOR OFFICIALS ARRIVE IN MEDINA

GF311120 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived safely in Medina at 1200 today. He was received at the airport by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation minister; Sa'd an-Nasir as-Saduyri, the commissioner [wakil] of the Amirate of Medina; princes; ministers; senior military and civilian officials; and notables of Medina.

His majesty is accompanied by Prince Mut'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of public works and housing and acting minister of municipal and rural affairs; Prince Turki ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of interior; princes and ministers.

After a brief rest at the royal lounge in the airport, during which senior officials of Medina greeted his majesty, he went to the prophet's mosque for noon prayers.

RIYADH ON U.S. PLAN FOR EVACUATION OF LEBANON

LD311816 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz Jasir]

[Text] Political efforts aimed at the evacuation of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon have become activated with the arrival of U.S. envoy Morris Draper in the region.

From the movements and statements of officials of the main party to the problem, Lebanon, and of the U.S. mediator, it is clear that the sides concerned with this problem will begin implementing the U.S. plan, which has been much talked about recently. Through the movements and statement made by Draper it seems that the U.S. plan would (?make) two main efforts:

The first aims at the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon. On this the U.S. envoy will have an influential role to the extent of effective participation in all political meetings, whereby he will assume the task of conveying the ideas of the two sides which will engage in indirect negotiations to lay down the political (?framework) for this problem. Concerning executive matters, the existence of a Lebanese-Israeli military committee, formed after the Israeli forces' invasion of Lebanon to remedy the problems created by the invasion, has been revealed.

This committee would deal with military matters and security arrangements which have been demanded by Israel in southern Lebanon. The committee, after it has been expanded with the addition of some senior officers, would function as a military liaison committee.

The second part aims at the withdrawal of the Syrian forces. In this effort, the U.S. envoy's role would be decreased because the negotiations would be between two Arab states whose representatives could have direct contacts without any need for a mediator as required in the first effort. The contribution of Arab parties which have good relations with both sides may be required in the second effort. However, Arab political and diplomatic efforts would not [word indistinct] the rank of a mediator, a role which is being played by the U.S. envoy.

Observers' expectations see that these two efforts would [word indistinct] in a parallel way, taking into consideration that the political efforts which concentrate on [word indistinct] of the Israelis is subject ot many considerations, the most important of which is being careful about the sincerity of the Israelis' position which commits Menahem Begin's government to carry out preliminary withdrawal from some regions as a start to the operation of assembling the invasion forces in preparation for their final withdrawal from Lebanon.

There remains the third military force, by which we mean the Palestinian forces. News reports have revealed that the PLO representative, Shafiq al-Hut, is currently negotiating on this issue. This point would be one of the important points for discussion to be dealt with by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil during his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, to take place soon in one of the Arab capitals.

PDRY

PARTY PAPER PRAISES AGREEMENT WITH OMAN

GF301544 Aden ANA in Arabic 1433 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Aden, 30 Oct (ANA) -- ATH-THAWRI, organ of the YSP Central Committee, said that the positive and responsible stand taken by our country toward the sincere and constructive efforts of Kuwait and the UAE -- a stand represented by our country's fully responding to these efforts and signing the agreement of principles -- has once again refelcted the PDRY's anxiousness to find peaceful solutionh to the dispute between our country and Oman.

In its editorial today ATH-THAWRI said that our country's participation in the meetings to normalize PDRY-Omani relations is within the framework of the PDRY's intensive efforts to work consistently and indefatigably to stave off the threat of U.S. military presence in the region and to deprive imperialist and Zionist circles of the opportunity of applying the policy of "divide and rule," a policy that aims to undermine the region's security and stability and turn it into a hotbed for the implementation of their plans of aggression.

ATH-THAWRI asserted that the PDRY can only be a factor of security and stability in the region. This is not only because of the PDRY's firm humanitarian principles, but also because of its revolutionary course and its constant desire to serve and embody the true national [wataniyah] and pan-Arab [qawmiyah] interests of the people of the region and all the peoples of our Arab nation.

PAPERS ON UPCOMING 'ALI TOUR TO U.S., CANADA

NC292325 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2315 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA) -- Cairo newspapers report that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will convey a message from President Husni Mubarak to U.S. President Ronald REagan on the situation in the Middle East and the future of the peace process during his visit to the United States from 11 to 13 November.

'Ali will also hold talks with Secretary of State George Shultz on the forthcoming stage of the peace process after the visit to Washington by the Arab delegation headed by King Hassan II as well as the Tabah issue. The papers say that this visit will come at the end of a tour by the foreign minister to Turkey, Canada and the United States within the framework of a new round of diplomatic moves.

'Ali is scheduled to visit Turkey this coming Tuesday for 3 days at the invitation of the Turkish Government. After that, he will pay a 2-day visit to Canada on 7 November to prepare for President Husni Mubarak's visit scheduled for early next year.

'Ali told the Cairo newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM that during his visit to Washington, he will meet with U.S. President Reagan, Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz within the framework of continuous bilateral consultations on the situation in the area.

Speaking of his visit to Turkey, 'Ali said that the importance of this visit stems not only from the great interest we have in our relations with Turkey, but primarily because of Turkey's recent position regarding Egypt and its support for the Egyptian peace efforts.

Regarding his visit to Canada, 'Ali said that it is at the invitation of the Canadian foreign minister. He said that during this visit he will hold talks with senior officials there on the developments in the Middle East and the efforts being made to achieve a settlement of the Palestinian question. He will also discuss the Israeli occupation of Lebanon as well as ways of strengthening cooperation between Canada and Egypt in the economic, scientific, and technological spheres and on the possibility of receiving Canadian economic and scientific aid.

OPPOSITION TO ISREALI ACTION IN TABAH CONTINUES

Multinational Force Contacted

NC292310 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA) -- The Foreign Ministry has notified the commander of the multinational force in the Sinai of the Israeli contraventions in the Tabah area. The Foreign Ministry described these contraventions as clear violations of the 25 April agreement, which provided for refraining from establishing any new installations and prohibiting any activity there. The agreement also handed the task of security in the area to the multinational force.

Publishing this, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Tourism Ministry has warned the Sonesta company, which intends to run the hotel complex in Tabah and hold its official inauguration on 15 November. The paper points out that this is considered to be a violation and contravention of international law, which prohibits activity in disputed areas. Egypt has also warned all international tourism companies not to have dealings with the hotel or any tourist activity in Tabah.

'Ali Receives Shultz' Reply

NC301511 Cairo MENA in English 1447 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, Oct 30 (MENA) -- Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received a message today from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in reply to his message sent last week on Tabah.

'Ali received the message during his meeting today with U.S. Ambassador here Alfred Atherton, MENA learnt.

Shultz's message deals with the U.S. desire to reach a quick settlement of the border problem between Egypt and Israel on Tabah.

MENA learnt that Egypt considers the message "positive".

Shamir's Reply Not Received

NC311928 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Jerusalem radio said this afternoon that Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has sent a letter to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali in reply to the letter he had received from 'Ali at the end of last week on the Tabah problem. The radio said Shamir informed Kamal Hasan 'Ali of Israel's readiness to resume negotiations, provided all relations between Egypt and Israel were discussed.

Meanwhile, Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated he has not yet received the Israeli reply to his letter. He said that as soon as the Israeli reply arrives, the Foreign Ministry will study and define Egypt's stand on the points contained in it.

Memorandum on Hotel

NC311447 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, 31 Oct (MENA) -- Egypt officially asked Israel today not to open the hotel it has built in Tabah, which is scheduled to be opened tomorrow. Egypt affirmed that his action contravenes the agreement concluded between the two sides on 25 April concerning a solution to the border problem in Tabah.

This was contained in an official memorandum handed today by Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid to Israeli Charge d'Affaires in Cairo Raphael Dubek.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali informed U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton during their meeting today of Egypt's stand on the need to stop the opening of the hotel Israel has built in Tabah.

'Ali met with Atherton today for the second time in 24 hours. The meeting lasted 90 minutes.

Following the meeting, the U.S. ambassador said the question of Tabah was one of the main topics discussed and on which views were exchanged. This question was also tackled in an exchange of letters between Kamal Hasan 'Ali and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The U.S. ambassador expressed the hope that negotiations on this problem will resume soon and that the deadlock will be broken. He said: This is my country's stand, which believes it is important that the talks be resumed. He added that during the meeting he discussed topics pertaining to Kamal Hasan 'Ali's visit to Washington from 11 to 13 November and his talks with officials there.

KUWAITI PAPER: USSR CONTACTED ON RESTORING TIES

GF291110 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Oct (QNA) -- Press reports today mention here that Egyptian-Soviet contacts are currently going on with the aim of restoring the severed bilateral relations.

The Kuwaiti weekly newspaper AL-HADAF explains that these contacts follow Egypt's announcement that it postponed the U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers in the Western Sahara and that Cairo has asked to purchase Russian arms from Moscow, particularly heavy T-13 tanks. [as received] The paper adds that Moscow's reply was encouraging.

The paper also says that a high-ranking Egyptian delegation headed by Mr Ahmad Fu'ad, chairman of the Egypt Bank board, will visit the Soviet Union, but the paper does not give the time of the visit.

The paper says Ahmad Fu'ad played a distinguished political and economic role during the era of President 'Abd an-Nasir, that he retained his post during the time of President as-Sadat and that he was one of those who planned and advised the process of the economic open-door policy.

The paper also says that an Egyptian delegation is scheduled to go to Moscow to inspect and purchase Russian agricultural machines. However, political circles in Cairo stress that the declared mission of the delegation has nothing to do with its real mission.

The paper says it has been noticed recently that the Egyptian press has not been attacking the Soviet Union and has been confining its attacks to the Egyptian Communist Party, without mentioning the Soviet Union. Some sources close to the authorities in Egypt indicate that Cairo recently received a load of spare parts and Russian military equipment which Egyptian war factories could not produce.

'ALI INTERVIEW WITH SAUDI PAPER 31 OCTOBER

NC311728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1527 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Oct (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali emphasized that Egypt will always be prepared to respond to every Arab request to defend Arab rights, territories, and national resources.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali also affirmed that Egypt considers the Iraq-Iran war as very harmful to the interests of the Arab and Islamic peoples. He called on Iran to return to adhering to the aims of peace and the policy of Islamic fraternity.

In an interview published by the Saudi newspaper AL-MADINAH AL-MUNAWWARAH today, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Egypt cannot see an Arab territory occupied or partitioned. We therefore view Iran's threats to launch a wide-scale attack on Iraq as a serious matter, and we will endeavor to promote Iraq's defense capabilities to enable it to defend its territories, proceeding first from a genuine Islamic stand and then as an Arab commitment.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said in his interview that, despite the fact that it is aiding Iraq with materiel and arms, Egypt supports all mediation efforts between the two warring sides to halt this war which is harmful to the Islamic and Arab nation.

The deputy prime minister expressed his conviction that agreement between the two superpowers to adopt a decisive stand on this war and on the need to halt it could have an effect in ending the fighting. He said it is clear thus far that the two superpowers are not seriously concerned with ending the fighting.

Replying to a question on Egypt's role with regard to the security of the Gulf in the event it is subjected to an aggressive attack, Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed put that Egypt supports any sincere Arab effort to promote the capabilities and resources of the Gulf states to defend and promote coordination among themselves. He said: On our part, we will go along with them in all their demands for sending instructors and supplying arms. Our military institutions are also receiving the sons of the Gulf states. However, if the security of the area is subjected to danger, Egypt's stand will be one of defending the national Arab rights.

To a question on Jordanian King Husayn and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat visiting Egypt and whether contacts have taken place in this regard, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: Cairo is the home of every Arab, great and small, and we need not invite the brother Arab leaders in any fraternal country to come to Egypt. Egypt is their country and Cairo welcomes them at any time and in any circumstances.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali added: The qeustion of King Husayn's visit has not been raised with us but we would welcome him any time he wishes. As for a visit by brother Yasir 'Arafat, it will take place at the time that both the Egyptian and Palestinian sides deem suitable to serve the Palestinian cause.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out in his interview that Egypt will not digress from its policy aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East, referring in this respect to the contacts that had taken place between Cairo and most of the Arab states throughout the past years.

Asked his views on the restoration of Arab relations with Egypt, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We look with hope to the future. We do not rush matters, especially since we are confident that the development of Egypt's relations with the Arabs will take place at the appropriate time, which Egypt will agree to with each Arab state individually.

He added that Egypt is a major state by Middle Eastern standards; it is the most stable state in the area and its capabilities are enormous on all levels. Therefore a boycott cannot achieve its objectives against a state like Egypt, especially since we have good, strong relations with many international parties and forces which are interested in helping and aiding Egypt along the path of peace.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed in this respect to what President Husni Mubarak had earlier explained -- that estrangement between the Arabs and Egypt will not occur and that Egypt's contacts with most of the parties in the Middle East and the West have continued throughout the past years.

MUBARAK WILL NOT ATTEND DESERT MANEUVER

NC311542 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak today suddenly canceled a plan to attend a huge maneuver scheduled to be conducted by the air force in the western desert. He said that he is forced to attend a political meeting instead of the maneuver. The late president Anwar as-Sadat was assassinated during a military parade in October last year. Officials, however, denied that President Mubarak's change of plan was due to any security reasons.

It is worth noting that seven Arab countries will participate in the aerial maneuver.

'ISMAT AS-SADAT IN 'PREVENTIVE DETENTION'

NC311042 Paris AFP in English 1004 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Cairo, Oct 31 (AFP) -- The late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's millionaire younger brother 'Ismat as-Sadat has been detained at Turah prison south of Cairo pending an official investigation into the origin of his fortune and possible "illegal activities" by his family, it was announced today.

Mr as-Sadat and three of his 15 children were placed in preventive detention on Friday night. An "Ethics" Court will be asked to rule within 60 days on whether the detention should be extended.

Meanwhile, 21 commissions are working on an inventory of Mr as-Sadat's assets, which according to initial estimates are worth tens of millions of Egyptian pounds.

The investigation concerns the activities of Mr as-Sadat, his 15 children and his four wives.

The authorities have ordered a news blackout on the case.

Relatives Imprisoned

NC010716 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) -- The newspaper MAN reports today that the decision to hold 'Ismat as-Sadat and his three sons Jamal, Jalal and Tal'at in custody at Mazra'at Turah prison was made after 'Ismat as-Sadat tried to smuggle 16 large suitcases to Mit Abu Al-Kawm village.

The paper adds that one of 'Ismat as-Sadat's three sons withdraw 200,000 pounds from the engineers branch of Chase Bank on 20 October -- that is, after the order was issued to seize the family's property. Another son was able to withdraw 140,000 pounds from the Alexandria branch of the Egypt-American Bank.

The paper also says the third son tried to sell his Volvo on 28 October. When he went to the Al-Jizah traffic department to register the sales contract, the employee refused to register it and informed on him.

PRC PREMIER TO VISIT DURING AFRICAN TOUR

NC010801 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Diplomatic sources said in Beijing today that Premier Zhao Ziyang will embark at the beginning of next month on a tour of seven African countries, including the Arab Republic of Egypt. This tour comes within the framework of the efforts aimed at bolstering economic and political cooperation among Third World countries. The sources did not mention the exact date when the tour will begin, and the PRC Foreign Ministry has not issued any clarifications.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH PRC -- Egypt and the People's Republic of China have agreed to cooperate in the field of generating electricity from minor waterfalls, such as canals and feeder canals. A delegation from the Ministry of Irrigation will pay a visit to the PRC in the middle of next month to agree on importing a number of small turbines, some of which will be used in Al-Isma'iliyah Canal and some in the canals of Al-Fayyum. [Text] [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Oct 82 NC]

CUBA'S RODRIGUEZ CONCLUDES VISIT TO BAGHDAD

Meets With Tariq 'Aziz

JN302106 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2055 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA) -- Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, met here this evening with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, and his delegation on the occasion of their visit to Iraq.

The Iraqi and Cuban officials discussed the developing bilateral relations in addition to a number of topics of mutual interest. The Cuban official expressed an understanding of Iraq's stands on international issues, expressing admiration for the signs of progress and development in Iraq despite the war, which has been raging for more than 2 years.

Meets With Saddam Husayn

JN311607 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) -- Presdient Saddam Husayn received here tonight Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, who is currently visiting Iraq. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and ways to promote bilateral cooperation in various fields.

The meeting was attended by Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, head of the president's office and acting secretary of the Revolution Command Council, and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

President Saddam Husayn also received Rodriguez last Thursday when he received a message from Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Departs 1 Nov

JN010808 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 5-day official visit to Iraq.

In a predeparture statement, Rodriguez told INA that his visit to Iraq has affirmed the profound friendship between Iraq and Cuba. He added: It was a great honor for me to be received by President Saddam Husayn and to exchange views with him on various issues of mutual interest. He said that his talks with Revolution Command Council [RCC] members Taha Yasin Ramadan and Tariq 'Aziz and other Iraqi officials were positive and fruitful, producing identical viewpoints with regard to the international situation and to the means of expanding existing relations between Iraq and Cuba.

Continuing, Rodriguez explained that he was deeply impressed by his visit, particularly with the splendid attention given to the development process and to concerting efforts in the fields of building, construction and social services.

Rodriguez and his delegation were seen off by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, a number of ministers and the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

COOPERATION MINUTES SIGNED WITH TURKEY

JN312138 Baghdad INA in ARabic 2025 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) -- Iraq and Turkey tonight signed joint cooperation minutes on railroads, land transport, telecommunications and civil aviation at the end of 3 days of talks. The minutes were signed for Iraq by Transport and Communications Minister 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim and for Turkey by Transportation Minister Mustafa Aysan.

In a statement during the signing ceremony, the Iraqi minister said that the subjects contained in the minutes will act as a basis for the development and consolidation of future bilateral cooperation. He stressed that Iraq is eager to maintain distinguished and exemplary relations with Turkey.

Mustafa Aysan, in turn, expressed his country's confidence that the joint minutes will prove an advanced step along the path of consolidating relations between the two neighborly countries. He asserted his country's desire to strengthen its relations with Iraq.

In the field of railroads, the joint minutes provide for the exchange of information and studies to fix points of direct linkage between the two countries' railroad networks and provide for holding bilateral meetings immediately after opening the railroad line between th two countries, with the aim of increasing the volume of transported goods. The minutes also state that the Turkish side will make an effort to reopen the railway line between the (Rabi'ah) and Nusaybin areas.

In land transport, the two countries agreed to prganize the operations of customs officers on the borders in a way that they would provide continuous fast service for trucks. In addition, Iraq wants to open a line for Iraqi passenger buses to Istanbul instead of Gaziantep. Iraq also wants to open special land transport offices in both countries.

The two sides also agreed to continue discussing the establishment a joint Iraqi-Turkish land transport company to operate between the two countries and other countries.

In communications and telecommunications, Iraq and Turkey agreed to begin operation of the joint microwave network in December this year. They also agreed to open direct telephone and telex links and to provide a telephone line by [words indistinct] to the Arab Gulf states and [words indistinct].

The two sides agreed to channel part of this telephone network from one country to the other in both ordinary and emergency circumstances via satellite ground stations operating in cooperation with the Intelsat and Intersputnic corporations provided that the number of telephone lines is determined by the post office, telegraph and telephone departments of both countries.

In civil aviation, the two countries agreed to open an office for Turkish airlines in Baghdad and to provide both countries with equal and fair opportunities in air freight lines.

Turkish Delegation Departs

JN010833 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- Turkish Transportation Minister Mustafa Aysan and his delegation left Baghdad for home last night after a 6-day official visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, the Turkish minister expressed his satisfaction with the talks he had with Iraqi officials, affirming that these talks had confirmed the strong and solid relations of cooperation and friendship between the two neighboring countries.

RAMADAN RECEIVES VISITING PRC MINISTER 31 OCT

JN311855 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, today received Yang Bo, PRC light industry minister, and his delegation. Ramadan welcomed the minister and his delegation, expressing satisfaction with the developed bilateral relations and stressing that these relations will witness further development and progress in various fields for the welfare of the two friendly peoples.

Taha Yasin Ramadan asked the PRC minister to convey his greetings to Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council. He stressed Iraq's desire to develop and expand its relations with China in a manner which serves the two countries' common interests.

The RCC member said that the friendly countries' participation in the Baghdad international fair, particularly at this time when we are entering the third year of the war, sincerely and effectively expresses a true desire to expand relations between Iraq and these countries. During the meeting, Ramadan reviewed the accomplishments of the 17-30 July revolution in all fields under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn. He indicated that the Iraqi people are clinging to their independence and are continuing to develop their country in the same spirit as they are defending their principles, land and dignity.

The Chinese minister conveyed to Taha Yasin Ramadan Zhao Ziyang's greetings as well as his country's readiness and desire to bolster ties of friendship and cooperatin with Iraq in various fields in the two countries' common interests. The Chinese minister expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between the two countries. He also expressed his deep admiration for the accomplishments achieved in Iraq in various fields under President Saddam Husayn's leadership. He praised the great efforts being exerted to develop Iraq on all levels despite the war.

The Chinese minister said that his visit to Baghdad on the occasion of the opening of the Baghdad international fair confirms these cordial bilateral relations and China's desire to strengthen its cooperation and friendship with Iraq in various fields.

IRAQI, SOVIET TRADE OFFICIALS MEET IN BAGHDAD

JN301921 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Oct (INA) -- Hasan 'Ali, Iraqi trade minister, today met with Grishin, USSR deputy foreign trade minister. During the meeting, they discussed means of developing friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union in the economic, trade and technical fields.

'Ali and Grishin expressed their belief that imperialism is seeking to hinder the development and independence of the developing countries. Proceeding from this principle, the trade minister affirmed that one of the aims of imperialism and the expansionist Iranian rulers in launching the war against Iraq is to hinder the comprehensive development process taking place in Iraq and to distract Iraq's attention from carrying out its pan-Arab and international responsibilities.

Grishin expressed admiration for the comprehensive development movement witnessed by Iraq despite the war. He affirmed that this fact proves the Iraqi national economy and will are solid in realizing progress and prosperity. He also referred to the appreciation by his country and the world for Iraq's stands and its serious efforts to stop the war and solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute in peaceful ways.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH POLAND

JN311910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Oct (INA) -- Iraq and Poland signed a joint protocol here tonight at the end of the seventh session of the Iraqi-Polish Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation. It was signed for Iraq by Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, and for Poland by Tadeusz Nestorowicz, minister of foreign trade.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Hasan 'Ali stressed the importance of holding the seventh session of the committee in Baghdad as it is the first political and economic meeting held between the two countries since the seventh [as received] session in Warsaw in September of last year. He added that holding the session in Baghdad also emphasizes the strong ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Tadeusz Nestorowicz expressed complete satisfaction with the positive spirit which permeated the work of this session. This spirit, he said, was an expression of the developing relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and Poland.

The joint protocol lays down the bases for the development of cooperation in industry, agriculture, irrigation, construction, scientific and technical cooperation and trade exchange during the next year.

SPOKESMAN ASSAILS U.S.-ISRAELI STATEMENT

GF301200 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text of "comment" [ta' liq] by an official spokesman of the Foreign Ministry -- date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] A statement issued in Washington by the U.S.-Israeli committee on 27 October 1982 calls on the U.S. Government to store military equipment, suppliers and fuel in Israel so that the U.S. forces can use them if a war should break out in the Arabian Gulf or Europe.

The U.S. statement shows that Israel constitutes the best springboard for the United States in the region in view of Israel's strategic position, political stability and the advanced technology it possesses.

The Iraqi Government views this trend as another U.S. step in supporting Israel and supplying it with all the means that sustain its ability to commit aggression, resort to the use of force and threaten the region's security and safety. Moreover, this confirms an important fact -- namely, that Israel and its military and nonmilitary apparatus would not have been able to do what they have been doing without the absolute and unlimited suppport they been receiving, support that is clearly represented by the aims of the said statement.

Furthermore, Iraq sees in the contents of this statement clear and flagrant interference in the region's internal affairs -- a matter that is rejected by all international considerations and is contrary to the UN Charter. At the same time this increases the possility of turning the Gulf region into an arena of conflict among the superpowers and a battlefield for the interests of a U.S. policy that is rejected by the area's peoples and governments.

AL-QASIM HOLDS TALKS WITH SHULTZ ON MIDDLE EAST

JN300647 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Washington -- Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim who is currently visiting Washington has met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and other senior State Department officials. The discussion dealt with the Middle East situation and Jordanian-U.S. relations. Al-Qasim said after the meeting that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the Palestinians must participate in any talks to reach a settlement of the issue.

State Department spokesman John Hughes said the talks centered on the situation in Lebanon, the U.S. President's Middle East initiative and bilateral relations.

Returns Home 31 Oct

JN311906 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim returned to Amman this eveing after participating in the meetings of the Arab delegation, which was formed by the Fes summit and headed by His Majesty King Hassan II, with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. The meetings focused on explaining the Arab view of a just and permanent peace in accordance with the plan approved by Arab leaders during their recent Fes meetings. In a statement to the JNA correspondent, Al-Qasim said that the Arab delegation's meetings with the U.S. officials were positive and concentrated on a solution for a just peace in the region. He said that during the meetings, the delegation and U.S. officials exchanged views and the delegation was briefed on the U.S. concept of the peace process in the Middle East, as set forth by U.S. President Reagan on 1 September.

AR-RA'Y RAPS STAND OF ISRAELI LABOR PARTY

JN010751 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Peace and the Distribution of Roles," AR-RAY says: In an attempt to appease the U.S. administration and to improve relations between the United States and Israel, Moshe Arens, the enemy's ambassador in Washington, suggested that his government freeze settlements in the occupied Arab territories on a temporary basis and invite Jordan to enter into negotiations with the Zionist entity. Despite the obvious aim of such a suggestion, which is completely unrelated to a desire for achieving peace, the enemy government's response yesterday to the proposals of its ambassador in Washington revealed decisively that government's false claims of harboring concern for peace and endeavoring to achieve it.

Perhaps the uproar that accompanied the Zionist ambassador's proposal, and which made some demand his recall for questioning, confirms what kind of peace Israel wants and endeavors to impose on the Arabs. In return, the Israeli Labor Party revealed yesterday an identical position to that of the government when it too rejected what Yasir 'Arafat had previously proposed regarding an open dialogue between the PLO and the opposition parties. In their rejection, the Labor Party even used the same phrases and description that Begin and his aides used in their talk of the organization [PLO] and the rights of the Palestinian people.

We believe that these identical positions, despite the apparent contradiction between the two parties, contain very important signs which our nation must be aware of as it passes through this crucial stage.

Perhaps the most prominent and reliable of these signs is the fact that the Zionist government and the opposition, due to the nature of the structure of the Zionist entity, cannot live in an atmosphere of peace. The only climate that suits this entity is one of aggression, bloodshed, and the denial of other people's right to live.

AR-RA'Y concludes: We in Jordan, which sincerely endeavors to achieve peace, realize the gap that separates real peace and the kind of peace that Israel seeks. The PLO is no less aware of this gap between these two types of peace. In fact, all peace lovers realize that all talks of peace in Israel, whether by the government or the opposition, is merely a distribution of roles or an attempt to wreck all peace opportunities.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES MOROCCO'S BOUCETTA, MESSAGE

JN311650 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta at the Royal Palace in Aqaba today with a message from His Majesty King Hassan II.

The message concerns the results of the visit to the United States by the seven-member committee formed by the Fes summit conference. It deals with the details of King Hassan's talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and high-ranking U.S. officials. The message also deals with King Hassan's address at the UN General Assembly which explained the dimensions of the Arab peace plan and the principles on which it is based to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The tasks facing the seven-member committee in the next stage are also included in the message.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad al-Lawzi, chief of The Royal Hashemite Court, and the Moroccan ambassador in Amman.

Boucetta arrived in Aqaba this morning and left after completing his mission.

BADRAN RECEIVES WEST BANK MAYOR 31 OCTOBER

JN010836 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 1 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office yesterday Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj. They discussed the situation in the occupied territories and means of supporting the steadfastness of the kinfolk there. Frayj briefed the prime minister on the situation in the occupied territories.

Minister of Occupied Territories Hasan Ibrahim also met Frayj and discussed the conditions of the kinfolk in the occupied territories and means of supporting them.

Frayj arrived in Amman yesterday morning.

AL-WAZZAN COMMENTS ON 31 OCTOBER CABINET MEETING

NC311857 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The Cabinet held an extraordinary meeting at the Presidential Palace at 1800 today under President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers. The meeting lasted until 1900. Following the meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan made the following statement: Before his departure tomorrow, his excellency the president wanted to brief the Cabinet on the visit and the reasons for it. We have also briefed the ministers of the talks we held with U.S. envoy Morris Draper yesterday and all issues relevant to the withdrawal [of foreign forces].

Asked about the formation of the delegation that will acoompany President al-Jumayyil on his visit to Morocco, Al-Wazzan said that the foreign minister will accompany the president.

Asked if the final touches had been put to the Cabinet statement, Al-Wazzan said: The Cabinet statement has been read since the last meeting.

Asked if the deputies will be given a copy of the Cabinet statement within 48 hours, Al-Wazzan said: We had hoped to deliver copies of the Cabinet statement to the deputies as quickly as possible, but we found that the conditions under which we discussed the statement will not allow us to hand out copies within 48 hours. For this reason, the statement will be read at the vote of confidence session.

AL-WAZZAN STATEMENT ON TALKS WITH DRAPER

NC301821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Following the meeting that was held with Ambassador Morris Draper today, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We found that there is approval of the principles which we defined and on which we insist -- namely, that there should be no joint committee for the talks. Our proposal is that this should be done through the committee formed following the problems that arose from the Israeli presence in Lebanon. I refer to the military field committee headed by Brigadier General Hamdan. This committee will continue its contacts as before but in accordance with the existing conditions. We have allowed this committee to seek the aid of a legal expert through the president of the advisory council, Antoine Barud, or whoever represents him, in order to strengthen it from the legal aspect.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: For our part, we will continue the political talks through the U.S. side, which is taking part in all the current negotiations.

Asked about the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Concerning the Palestinian forces, I have started contacts with head of the PLO mission in Lebanon, Shafiq al-Hut. Talks will be held through him in the future. Concerning the talks with Syria, we will undoubtedly hold the necessary contacts in the near future. It remains for me to say that we have informed Mr Draper that we insist on quick action to bring about the pullouts as soon as possible.

Asked when he expects the pullouts to begin, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Today we defined the principles in a final manner. What remains is for the talks to begin. They have actually begun, as I sadi previously, through the U.S. side. The committee must now start its work.

Asked whether Draper conveyed Israeli conditions to him, such as the need for a Palestinian withdrawal, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We did not deal with these details at today's session. We just defined in a final manner the bases on which we could work. In our endeavors, we do not accept any conditions because we adhere to our right to sovereignty over our land. This right has been confirmed by the United Nations and the UN Security Council through successive resolutions. As to what will confront us during the talks, we will cross that bridge when we reach it.

Asked whether there was anything new regarding the deployment of the multinational force, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We also discussed this subject with Mr Draper. Lebanon wants more friendly states to contribute to the multinational force. We are discussing this matter with the U.S. side so it may help us in persuading the friendly states to accept this mission. Some states have already expressed a readiness to participate. Since we desire a quick withdrawal, we must prepare the forces that will help us fill the vacuum that could arise until Lebanon's sovereignty is strengthened and until we strengthen our army.

This is an opportunity to say that the U.S. side has promised to provide the Lebanese Army with the equipment it needs. The U.S. side has informed us that this will take place very soon. A U.S. mission, which will arrive in the next 48 hours, will provide us with details on this matter. I hope this will be implemented very soon.

U.S. TO BE 'FULL PARTNER' IN TALKS WITH ISRAEL

NC301720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Informed sources have stated that the United States will be a full partner in the negotiations to be held between Lebanon and Israel in order to draw up security arrangements and bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

The same sources have stated that Ambassador Morris Draper will leave for Damascus, although not in the near future, and that there is no need at present for the arrival of U.S. envoy Philip Habib, who might arrive at any time if the need arises.

AL-JUMAYYIL LEAVES FOR MOROCCO VISIT 1 NOVEMBER

NC010752 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil left Beirut International Airport at 0805 today for Morocco in response to an official invitation from King Hassan II. The National News Agency correspondent at the airport has filed the following report:

[Begin recording] His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil left Beirut this morning for Morocco in response to an official invitation from King Hassan II of Morocco. President al-Jumayyil was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri; Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri; Director of General of Public Security Amir Faruq Abu al-Lam; Director General of the Internal Security Forces Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj; Director General of Middle East Airlines Salim Salam; Acting Civil Aviation Director General Edmond Ghusn; Commander of the Airport Security Department Staff Brig Gen Yasin Suwayd and a large number of people.

Strict security measures were taken at the airport by the Lebanses Army riot squads, the airport security department and the republican guard. When His Excellency President al-Jumayyil arrived at the airport at 0755, he was saluted by members of the military academy, and after shaking hands with those present, he boarded the plane which took off from Beirut airport at 0810 today. Middle East Airlines has placed a Boeing 707 at the disposal of His Excellency President al-Jumayyil.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Defense Minister 'Islam Khuri commented on His Excellency President al-Jumayyil's visit. The following are the statements:

[Question by unidentified person] Prime Minister al-Wazzan, what do you have to say about his excellency the president's visit to Morocco?

[Al-Wazzan] Quick action is necessary in the present circumstances. It is in the interest of Lebanon to keep its cause in the forefront and to give it the necessary momentum to push it toward a solution. This visit which his excellency the president is paying today comes within the framework of this activity, which we hope will bear fruit very soon.

[Question] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister.

[Question by unidentified person] Mr 'Isam Khuri, what are your views on His Excellency President al-Jamuyyil's visit to Morocco today?

[Khuri] This visit is one in the chain of visits which his excellency the president of the republic is paying, carrying the Lebanese cause in his heart and conscience to spread it throughout the world. As for this visit, we hope it will be successful and will achieve the same results achieved in his excellency's first visit to the United States and some European states. We are confident that he will succeed in this visit and achieve the best results. [end recording]

Will Not Meet 'Arafat

NC302035 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] It has been learned that the visit President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil will pay to Morocco this coming Monday, in response to an invitation by King Hassan II who is heading the seven-member Arab committee, is not within the framework of the Arab tour the Lebanese president plans to embark upon at a later date and provides no scope for meeting with the PLO chairman.

It is noted that Morocco has offered to send 20,000 Moroccan soldiers to join the multinational force.

ACTIVITIES OF JUNBLATT'S NATIONAL MOVEMENT HALTED

NC291324 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] It has been learned from sources close to Walid Junblatt that the National Movement has decided to halt its activities until further notice. No explanation has been given for the reasons that necessitated this measure.

ISRAELI, HADDAD FORCES ACCUSED OF 'SOWING TERROR'

NC301107 Paris AFP in English 1055 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Beirut, Oct 30 (AFP) -- Shaykh Hasan Tamin, president of the Islamic Center, accused Israeli forces and Christian militiamen of Sa'd Haddad of sowing terror in the Moslem population south of Beirut, the local press reported here today.

The shaykh said Israeli troops accompanied by two militiamen loyal to Sa'd Haddad, who ordered the September massacres in the Palestinian refugee camps in the Beirut suburbs, carried out search operations yesterday in the Khaldah region, south of Beirut.

The presence of the Haddad forces, who are not authorized north of Sidon in southern Lebanon, sent a wave of panic through the local residents, who fled for their lives towards the capital.

The Israeli and Haddad forces undertook the search operations of private homes after arresting three youths for attacking women.

The report of Haddad forces within a few kilometers of the Lebanese capital also threw the residents of the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps into panic yesterday.

SHAM'UN RETURNS FROM 22-DAY FOREIGN TOUR

NC291554 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un returned to Beirut this evening following a 22-day foreign tour that took him to a number of European and American countries.

On arrival, Sham'un made a statement in which he said that he had met with Walid Junblatt in Paris. He expressed hope that the outcome of the meeting will reflect positively on the situation in the Ash-Shuf region.

Sham'un remarked that the members of the new Cabinet lack experience, but added that this experience will be acquired by practice. He also expressed the belief that President al-Jumayyil's trip to the Arab countries is necessary.

JUSTICE MINISTER SUPPORTS SELF-CENSORSHIP BY PRESS

NC311531 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Justice and Information Minister Roger Shaykhani has said that in order to help impose the rule of law in all parts of Lebanon, the Lebanese press must display wisdom to avert the need to impose censorship. However, he told the English-language MONDAY MORNING magazine that he supports the continuation of the freedom enjoyed by foreign correspondents in Lebanon and opposes the imposition of restrictions on imported publications.

Minister Shaykhani said that if the government's sovereignty is imposed on all the country, the press can write whatever it wants. However, anyone who sees that the press has defamed his reputation can resort to the law. He added that in such a case, there will be no need for censorship. The papers will exercise self-censorship to preserve their freedom of expression and without violating the freedom and rights of others. He said that the wisdom of the press will help the government not to use the weapon at its disposal, which is the weapon of censorship. Minister Shaykhani said that a short-lived attempt to impose censorship in 1977 was meant to force the press to seek the truth in their reports.

He said that he will discuss with the Lebanese press syndicate the outside financing of some Lebanese papers. However, he said that he thinks it is necessary to Lebanonize the information media.

AL-ASAD COMMENTS ON LEBANON, 'ARAFAT, USSR

JN300608 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] In an interview with the magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI to be published today, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad says that Syria is ready to facilitate anything that is in Lebanon's interests, particularly the Israeli withdrawal from its territory.

President al-Asad explained that Lebanon has never discussed with Syria the issue of the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Al-Biqa' and the north. He added: In any case, Syrian forces will not withdraw before the Israelis.

President al-Asad welcomed the visit Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil intends to make to Damascus within the framework of his Arab tour and announced that Syria is ready to negotiate the establishment of diplomatic relations with Lebanon if Lebanon states such a desire.

President al-Asad denied the existence of any differences with Yasir 'Arafat. On the possibilities of establishing a Jordanian-Palestinian federation, President al-Asad said Damascus welcomes any federation among Arab parties even if Syria has differences with these parties.

President al-Asad defended the quality of the Soviet weapons Syria possesses. He said the T-72 tank is the best tank in the world. Describing Syria's relations with Moscow as friendly, he said relations with the United States are subject to the relations that currently exist between the United States and Israel.

SYRIA, USSR DISCUSS ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Talks Begin

JN301434 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm today received Semen Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and head of the Soviet side to the Syrian-Soviet Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, and his delegation. The talks dealt with details of economic, technical and scientific issues related to Syrian-Soviet cooperation and ways of promoting this cooperation in a manner that will continuously embody the aims of the two friendly countries.

Committee Convenes

JN301823 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 30 Oct (SANA) -- The seventh session of the Syrian-Soviet Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation began its work here today. The Syrian side was led by Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs, and the Soviet side headed by Semen Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations at the USSR Council of Ministers.

At the beginning of the session, Dr Sharaf delivered a speech in which he expressed pleasure at the development of relations between Syria and the Soviet Union in all fields. He also praised the stand of the Soviet Union, which gives every means of support required for strengthening Syria's economic and struggle potential against the imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

Skachkov delivered a speech in which he asserted that the committee meetings will play an outstanding role in developing and strengthening relations between the two friendly countries in all fields and that they will also contribute to bolstering joint cooperation and friendship between the two countries.

Skachkov reaffirmed the USSR's support for the just struggle staged by the Syrian Arab people against the imperialist-Zionist challenges in the region. A protocol of bilateral economic, technical and scientific cooperation is scheduled to be signed tomorrow at noon.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

JN311453 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1420 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 31 Oct (SANA) -- The protocol of the seventh session of the Syrian-Soviet Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation was signed here today by Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs, and Semen Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, The members of the two negotiating delegations and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus attended the signing ceremony.

The protocol contains the results of the talks held from 23 to 31 October. These talks dealt with the progress of projects being implemented by the Soviet Union in Syria in various fields, including land reclamation, dams, railroads, oil, water studies and the expansion of Latakia harbor and the energy network.

The two sides also signed an exchanged message on an agreement to finance a study plan on implementing a railroad between Damascus and Dar'a, in southern Syria, with a Soviet loan.

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION ARRIVES 30 OCTOBER

JN301502 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] A delegation representing the Soviet-Syrian Friendship Society arrived in Damascus today to participate in Syrian-Soviet Friendship Week, which will be held in Damascus on the occasion of the celebrations marking the socialist October revolution anniversary.

BA'TH PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ROME 30 OCT

JN301819 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Damascus, 30 Oct (SANA) -- An Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation returned here from Rome today at the end of an official and cordial visit to the Italian Communist Party, during which talks were held on various Arab and international issues of common concern. In an official statement at the end of the talks, the two parties condemned Israel's expansionist policy and its savage invasion of Lebanon.

The Italian Communist Party highly appreciated Syria's firm, principled stand under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership in the face of the imperialist-Zionist schemes. The two parties stressed the need to develop the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties. They also stressed the need to bolster their joint struggle for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East -- a peace that takes into consideration the Palestinian people's national, inalienable right to establish their own independent state on the soil of their homeland.

CABINET TO DISCUSS LEBANON, TIES WITH EGYPT

TA310608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The Cabinet will convene this morning to discuss the state of relations with Egypt, in view of the extreme statements made in Cairo against Israel and Egypt's demand that deliberations on the disputed Tabah area continue. The ministers will be briefed on the talks held at the end of the week with U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper regarding the arrangements in Lebanon. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the state of these negotiations in anticipation of the Cabinet session:

[Schiffer -- live] The negotiations over the security arrangements in Lebanon have not yet begun. This is the impression gained following the meeting between the prime minister, the foreign and defense ministers and Morris Draper at the end of the week. The special U.S. envoy did not bring along anything tangible, beyond President al-Jumayyil's agreement in principle to establish a joint committee with Israel to discuss the security arrangements. Al-Jumayyil is seeking to hold the discussions in the framework of the armistice committee that disbanded in the Yom Kippur war.

In the meeting, the Israeli side expressed its opposition to such an idea. Jerusalem attaches supreme importance to the composition of the joint committee as well as to the rank of the U.S. mediator. The first topic Israel proposes to be discussed by the committee is the abolishment of the state of belligerency between the two countries, to be followed by security arrangements that would ensure the departure of all foreign forces and supervision methods to ensure that the Syrians and the terrorists do not return to Lebanon. Only at the end of this process would an agreement on security arrangements in a 50-km strip from the Israeli northern border be discussed.

When Draper reported that al-Jumayyil would hold contacts with the Syrians and the PLO for their departure from Lebanon, the Israeli side expressed its lack of confidence in Al-Jumayyil's ability to obtain real results. Israel insists on the departure of the PLO men from Lebanon prior to the beginning of the IDF withdrawal. Draper said: We do not have the means at present to exert pressure on the PLO as we had during the negotiations for their departure from West Beirut. At that time, they had the alternative to save themselves or be annihilated by the IDF.

Israel is also opposed to the PLO keeping its offices in Lebanon. The U.S. envoy expressed the hope that the Lebanese Government would succeed in preventing this. In any event, the path to achieving the departure of the foreign forces, to making the arrangements is still long. Draper promised that within 2 weeks the Israeli-Lebanese joint committee would be set up and thus negotiations would start.

[Unidentified announcer] Our correspondent adds that the prime minister is not concerned about statements made in Egypt in the last few days. A source close to Menahem Begin told our correspondent that the prime minister believes the Egyptians cannot expected to be more Zionist than Israel's friends in the United States and several Alignment Knesset members who have made very harsh statements against Israel.

At the end of the week, Minister Avraham Sharir said that Israel should not agree to discuss the Tabah situation before Egypt has restored relations to their previous state. This is the position the foreign minister will present this morning at the Cabinet session.

Tabah Dispute Discussed

TA311045 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1015 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the prime minister's office in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] The Cabinet session this morning was shorter than usual and the ministers started emerging from the meeting around 1100. In the meeting, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reported on the meeting at the end of the week with U.S. special envoy Morris Draper.

The ministers heard reports on things which have already been published: that Lebanon is willing to set up a joint military committee with Israel to discuss the security arrangements and that the negotiations will continue after Morris Draper returns to Jerusalem within a few days.

The Cabinet held a brief debate on the state of relations with Egypt. At the end of the meeting, a decision was formulated regarding the disputed Tabah area near Elat. The Cabinet believes that this issue does not stand on its own and it should be regarded as part of the issues pertaining to the normalization of relations. As recalled, a few days ago Egypt demanded that negotiations on the Tabah area and what is happening there be resumed. Israel is willing to continue discussing this issue but only in the framework of a comprehensive debate on bilateral relations.

[Unidentified announcer] Does this mean that the hotel there will open?

[Schiffer] You took the words out of my mouth. An authoritative government source told me a short time ago that the question is not over a status quo at Tabah and that life will continue there and that the hotel, whose construction was completed recently, will open within a few days.

As for the harsh anti-Israeli statements by leading Egyptian officials, the prime minister believes that the statements are not related to Operation Peace for Galilee. Even during President as-Sadat's term in power, harsh anti-Israeli statements were frequently voiced. In the past, Israel protested these statements and it is now strengthening these protests by noting that they contradict the peace treaty.

The proposal made recently by Moshe Arens, ambassador to the United States, to freeze the settlements in order to improve relations with the United States was also raised at the Cabinet session.

Shamir to Reply to 'Ali

TA311625 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this afternoon sent his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hasan 'Ali a reply to the Egyptian request to resume negotiations on the border demarcation at Tabah. The Israeli message was phrased in the spirit of the statements made at today's Cabinet session, that is, Israel is willing to discuss the Tabah issue, but not outside comprehensive negotiations on all bilateral relations. Reacting to the publication of the proposal by Israel's U.S. ambassador, Moshe Arens, to temporarily freeze the establishment of settlements, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said during today's session that Israel's settlement policy is known and that it will not be changed. Our correspondent 'Oz Frenkel reports:

[Begin recording] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reviewed at the Cabinet session the deterioration of Israel's relations with Egypt. Some ministers sought to react. Meanwhile, political sources sought to stress that the Cabinet today did not hold a detailed discussion about the matter of Egypt, and that apparently such a discussion will not be held.

The prime minister tried to avoid creating the impression that there are serious difficulties in our relations with Egypt. Ministers Uzan and Ben-Porat suggested holding a special discussion with Israel's ambassador to Cairo. In reaction, Begin proposed including the Egyptian issue in a comprehensive political discussion. [end recording]

Begin-Mubarak Summit Proposed

TA311544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Education Minister Zvulun Hammer proposed at today's Cabinet session the consideration of an invitation by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to meet with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Hammer suggested that the two meet to bring about a positive change in the two countries' relations. This has been learned by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. Hammer warned against a continuation of the hostile declarations being made by both countries. Instead of being dragged into making war cries, it is better to continue building peace, he said.

Secretary Sums Up Discussion

TA311137 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1108 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer from the prime minister's office in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor approached us about an hour ago and read the Cabinet communique:

[Begin recording] In its weekly session, the foreign minister briefed the Cabinet on political issues. Among those issues, the contacts toward the resumption of the talks between Israel and Lebanon were discussed, including the conversation that was held with Ambassador Draper. Also discussed were issues pertaining to relations between Israel and Egypt. The ministers held a debate after the foreign minister's briefing.

On the basis of the Basic Law's [provisions on duties of] the president, the Cabinet endorsed the president's trip to the United States and gave this visit the Cabinet's approval. It will last between 5 Kislev 5743, 21 November, until 17 Kislev 5743, 3 December. [end recording]

[Schiffer] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told his colleagues about the letter he had received from his Egyptian counterpart, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, which included a demand [doresh] that Israel return to the negotiating table over Tabah, which is not far from Elat. It was made clear at the Cabinet session today that Israel would be prepared to return to the negotiating table once the Egyptians reestablish the kind of ties the two countries had prior to Operation Peace for Galilee, the return of Ambassador Murtada to Israel being one of those moves.

During the session, the issue of Ambassador to the United States Moshe Arens' suggestion was also raised. A few weeks ago, he suggested that the prime minister declare a moratorium on settlement activity for a while as a way of improving relations with the United States. This is what Dan Meridor said on both these subjects:

[Begin recording] I am prepared to say that the Cabinet again recalled Israel's settlement policy as it was related to the U.S. administration and other countries more than once. That policy is still in effect.

The Egyptians wished to renew the talks on Tabah on marking the border between Israel and Egypt. Israel, of course, is ready to do so coupled with the resumption of the talks and the other contacts related to normalization, which were stopped, but not by Israel. [end recording]

[Schiffer] As for Ambassador Arens' suggestion which, to recall, involved a freeze on the settlements for some time, some harsh statements were made by some ministers. After the session, Prof Yuval Ne'eman told us that he completely endorses the Cabinet's resolution to continue to establish settlements.

Regarding the ambassador's remarks, it is the ambassador's business to report on events that take place in the country where he is stationed, Yuval Ne'eman said. He must report on the moods, but it is none of his business to suggest the kind of policy the government should adopt. The entire business seems to me very strange, and we have never heard about such a method of operation since then Ambassador to the United States Yitzhaq Rabin suggested that the Cabinet decide on bombing deep in the heart of Egypt. The entire business is weird, Minister Yuval Ne'eman said.

Incidentally, the subcommittee under the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs will meet in an hour under the chairmanship of Yuval Ne'eman. We would not be surprised if today, too, decisions will be made to expand and establish new settlements in the territories. This is Debbie Efrayim and Shim'on Schiffer together with Avraham Levi, reporting from the prime minister's office.

Further Remarks

TA311319 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] [Begin recording] [Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor] The Egyptian Government wants to resume the negotiations about the demarcation of the border between Israel and Egypt mainly in Tabah and other points. Israel, of course, agrees, but not to resuming just and only this part of the bilateral relations between Egypt and Israel. There are negotiations and contacts and there should be, according to the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, negotiations and contacts on many other issues, and we don't think it is proper that all the others, or many of the others, are frozen and just this issue is resumed. We will suggest, and we did suggest, to resume negotiations on all the outstanding issues between Israel and Egypt, including normalization or its severance. [end recording]

[Political correspondent David Essing -- live] But does Israel's stand include a condition that the Egyptian ambassador must return to Israel before Tabah negotiations get underway?

[Begin Meridor recording] I would not like to state a position on this matter. I would only say I understand their message was called for a consultation; I hope he will finish his consultations and come back. I did not connect it to the resuming of negotiations on normalization and other issues between Israel and Egypt. [end recording]

[Essing -- live] So, while Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor did not speak of any hard Israeli conditions, it is expected in Jerusalem that Ambassador Murtada should return to Israel as part of new talks on Tabah.

MINISTER MERIDOR ON RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA010827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Reporter David Essing asked Cabinet Minister Ya'aqov Meridor if Israel is demanding the return of Egyptian Ambassador Sa'd Murtada before the talks [on the disputed area in Tabah] can resume:

[Begin recording] [Meridor] I wouldn't say that Israel is insisting on it; I would say Israel is more insisting on the return of the normalization, and within the return of normalization we should discuss also Tabah, not to divorce Tabah from the total problem of our relationship with Egypt.

[Essing] Can it be said that Israeli-Egyptian relations have now reached a serious crossroads?

[Answer] No, I wouldn't say so; this is not serious. In the Middle East, nothing is serious but a war.

[Question] But the fact that the Egyptian ambassador has been recalled, the fact that the Egyptian news media is taking a very (?striking) tone with Israel?

[Answer] Well, this is correct but, again, we are very calm about it. What? They will stop buying our goods? They will stop sending their tourists? What? We never expected very much of them. The embassy exists; our embassy exists there. They recalled [the Egyptian ambassador]; they will send back -- if they want to solve problems they will have to talk, that's all. [end recording]

EGYPT INTRODUCES 'MILITARISTIC' TONE TO RELATIONS

TA310852 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 31 Oct 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Daliya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Political sources expressed the view last night that the Egyptian air maneuvers following sharp anti-Israeli statements made recently in Cairo introduces a militaristic tone to Israeli-Egyptian relations, which had been tense anyway.

In anticipation of the debate on Israeli-Egyptian relations the Cabinet is scheduled to hold today, it was noted last night that, "Egypt is really undermining normalization all the way through" and that, "Israel so far has pursued quiet diplomacy, but this has not produced any good results."

U.S. 'INTERVENTION' WITH EGYPT WOULD BE 'WELCOME'

TA312036 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Egypt officially demanded today that Israel close the Sonesta Hotel in Tabah, and demanded the immediate resumption of the talks over the border demarcation in this area. The Egyptian demand was submitted today to the charge d'affaires in the Israeli Embassy, Efrayim Dubek.

In a letter sent by Deputy Froeign Minsiter 'Abd al-Hamid, Egypt claims that the opening tomorrow of the hotel to tourists as planned would constitute a violation of the memorandum reached between the two countries in April. Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali met this evening on this matter with U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton, and gave him an urgent letter to Washington.

Political sources in Jerusalem would welcome U.S. intervention in order to influence Egypt to thaw the freeze in its relations with Israel. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that at today's Cabinet session, the assessment was voiced that the tension with Egypt could be defused within a few weeks.

EGYPT DENIES LAXITY IN PREVENTING INFILTRATION

TA291236 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Oct 82 p 14

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] Egypt yesterday rejected the contention of the head of the Israeli Intelligence Branch, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, that Egyptian security forces are not making enough of an effort to prevent the infiltration of terrorists across the border in the Sinai into the territories, and attacked Israel for raising this issue outside the framework of the two countries' liaison mechanism, as called for by the peace treaty.

A statement released yesterday, attributed to an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official, stated that Egypt is assiduously fulfilling all its committee in the peace treaty, and is taking every security measure on its border to prevent activity in violation of the peace treaty.

The Egyptian statement hints that Israel's claims concerning neglect in Egyptian security arrangements on the Sinai border are groundless, and that Israel should have raised the matter in the two countries' liaison machanism, as called for in the agreements. Publicly raising the issue serves neither "the two countries' interests nor the cause of peace," the Egyptian statement said.

It should be noted that recently there has indeed been an increase in infiltration across the Sinai border by terrorist squads who smuggle arms and strengthen the terrorist infrastructure in the territories. However, it appears that this increase does not stem from an intentional Egyptian policy to facilitate terrorist infiltration across the border, but rather from a lack of skill on the part of the Egyptian security forces, who have difficulty controlling the wave of infiltration and smuggling. This wave is partly a result of severe unemployment in the Sinai Peninsula following the Israeli evacuation.

As a rule, the Egyptians do not permit terrorist activity from the Sinai for fear it would likely bring about a sharp Israeli reaction and endanger the existence of the peace agreement. At the same time, the Egyptians are not bending over backwards to prevent infiltration, unlike the Jordanian Army which demonstrates great skill in this matter along the border between Israel and Jordan.

LABOR: GOVERNMENT HARMING TIES WITH EGYPT

TA311224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The Labor Party has stated that the government's policy has resulted in deteriorated relations with Egypt and has driven relations to the verge of a crisis. The Labor Party calls for a substantial change in policy regarding the territories and says that the danger has increased that Israel's great sacrifice for the sake of peace will be in vain.

The Labor Party further notes that Ambassador Arens' proposal to freeze the settlements may be the first sign of a sobering-up process, however it has also been rejected out of hand.

'ASTONISHMENT' GREETS ARENS SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL

TA310749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Prof Moshe Arens, Israel's ambassador to the United States, proposed to the prime minister some time ago that Israel declare a freeze on the establishment of settlements in the territories for some time in order to improve relations with the United States. The prime minister vehemently rejected the ambassador's proposal. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on these disclosures:

[Schiffer -- live] Professor Arens' proposal was greeted with astonishment in Jerusalem. The Israeli ambassador to Washington, a Herut leader, proposes to comply with the U.S. President's request and declare a freeze on the establishment of settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip and to invite King Husayn to join the peace process. The ambassador believes that all these moves would lead to an improvement in bilateral relations. It must be noted at once that the proposal was sent personally to the prime minister during Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's stay in the United States.

In a brief and sarcastic note, the prime minister answered the ambassador approximately as follows: If we accepted your proposal, we would ultimately be left with the declaration on a freeze on the establishment of settlements; Husayn would not join the peace process and the world would not appreciate our proposals.

Political observers say that the change in Moshe Arens' positions is the direct result of his closeness to policymakers in Washington and of the realization that if a change does not occur in Israel's positions, relations with the United States might deteriorate further. However, this is only one of the conclusions.

A few days ago, Ambassador Arens sent another report to Jerusalem, this time summing up the impact of the Peace for Galilee war on Israeli-U.S. relations. In the report, it was stated that the realization is strengthening in the United States that the war contributed to U.S. interests; U.S. weapons had defeated Soviet arms and this will lead to a change in East-West relations, the ambassador wrote. Relations between Israel and the United States will now improve and once the fire dies down, the events of Sabra and Shatila will no longer hover over relations. The United States has already realized that the PLO was dealt a lethal blow militarily and politically, Professor Arens went on to write. Finally, there is no link between the Palestinian problem and the problem of the refugees.

Political observers did not rule out the possibility that the latter report was influenced by the prime minister's reaction to the ambassador's first proposal. It should be noted that Professor Arens holds direct and frequent contacts with the prime minister by telephone and other means. Political observers note that these two common phenomena which afflicted Israeli ambassadors in Washington in the past have not skipped Arens: first, direct contact with the prime minister behind the foreign minister's back, and, second, the impact of residing in the U.S. capital on personal positions and views and basic conceptions, which had been different before the beginning of their service in the United States.

Arens Denies Favoring Freeze

TA010634 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Yesterday we reported that Ambassador Arens had suggested freezing settlements for the time being in order to stabilize relations with the United States. The reactions of the Cabinet and the Likud were as expected. This morning, Israel's Ambassador to Washington Moshe Arens says he is opposed to freezing the settlements and that he has not changed his opinions since he left Israel. Ambassador Arens described reports on this issue as inventions, but at the same time he refused to comment directly on reports and on whether he had or had not written to the prime minister that a freeze should be imposed on the settlements. Our correspondent Shalom Qital spoke to our ambassador in Washington:

[Begin recording] [Qital] Mr Ambassador, did you recommend to the prime minister freezing settlements to improve relations with the United States?

[Answer] Look, my entire correspondence and conversations with the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister are mostly secret, and I certainly cannot comment on them. I cannot comment on them in an absolute manner, in the sense that I cannot tell you what I said and I cannot even tell what I did not say, just as I cannot tell you what the prime minister told me or what he did not tell me. By nature -- this is an established and correct procedure -- these things must remain secret, even when we are afflicted with a plague of leaks or a plague of inventions by people who try to reveal and publicize state secrets, and when they cannot do that they attempt to invent and publicize reports.

[Question] Do you believe that a freeze should be imposed on settlements at present to improve relations with the United States?

[Answer] I am opposed to freezing settlements. I will even go so far as to say that I have always subscribed to the opinion -- and I still do -- that settlement in Judaea and Samaria perhaps is the most important practical activity we must conduct in the field.

[Question] Have there been any talks with the U.S. administration about freezing settlements?

[Answer] No, there have not been such talks. The issue cropped up at the President's initiative, but it was in effect not discussed later by us and the administration. [end recording]

Reaction to Arens Proposal

TA310951 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0825 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Here are the first reactions to the statements attributed to Ambassador Moshe Arens. The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip this morning sent a telegram to Ambassador Arens stating: We refuse to believe that you proposed freezing Jewish settlement for 6 months. Such a proposal, which is tantamount to suggesting that a Jew convert to another religion for 6 months, is an irretrievable and fundamental change in positions. We await your clarifications. This is the text of the telegram sent by the council of Jewish settlements as learned by our correspondent 'Arad Nir.

At the other end of the political spectrum, MK Imri Ron of MAPAM submitted an urgent motion to the Knesset's agenda calling on the government to accept Ambassador Arens' proposal.

Press Views Arens Proposal

TA010818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 1 Nov 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] HA'ARETZ writes that the authority of the Cabinet, the prime minister and the foreign minister would not be hampered if our diplomatic representatives in the capitals of the world, and particularly our representative in the U.S. capital, went beyond their task of reporting. Our policymakers would be well advised to also take advice from our ambassador. It is a real shame that in the case of the proposal of Professor Arens, Mr Begin hastened to reject it vehemently.

THE JERUSALEM POST says it is regrettable that Mr Begin rejected Arens' advice, both on the score of the substantive question itself but also as a further indication of the prime minister's growing isolation from world political realities. Professor Arens' presence in Washington is a special asset to Israel in the context of the Begin government and its basic policies. However, it is an asset in danger of being frittered away if his reasoned advice is consciously ignored. The degree of Israel's military, economic and political dependence on the United States has grown so great that it is foolhardy indeed, to send a leading political figure of the ruling party to keep a finger on America's pulse, and then deliberately ignore his readings of that pulse.

DAVAR writes that the proposal of the Israeli ambassador to the United States to impose a temporary freeze on settlements in the territories is proof of the intellectual integrity of Professor Arens. The reactions of ministers and other government officials and coalition members discredits both them and their political thinking.

The paper adds that the chances of entering into a dialogue with Husayn largely depend on an Israeli signal that the gradual advance toward annexing the territories may be halted. In the absence of such a signal, the United States will move closer to the Arab positions, and instead of imposing a freeze on the settlements, the practical expressions of U.S.-Israeli friendship may be frozen and harmed.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that Ambassador Arens began opening his eyes and sensibly assessing reality from the time he moved to Washington, perhaps Mr Begin should be appointed ambassador to Washington? However, there is no fear, this will not happen to him. Mr Begin will remain loyal to his political blindness, as the paper phrases it, even if faced with a reality contravening all his political assumptions.

SHARON REJECTS PLAN TO DEMILITARIZE TERRITORIES

TA010807 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that the terrorist deployment based in Lebanon should serve as a warning against the proposal to demilitarize Judaea and Samaria, and hand these areas over to Jordanian rule. In his opinion, such a situation would enable the terrorists to gain a stronghold in Judaea and Samaria and create a state within a state, as they did in Lebanon.

[Begin recording with Sharon remarks apparently recorded earlier][Sharon] Whoever talks today about a plan to demilitarize Judaea and Samaria is thereby creating the Lebanon model; that is, exactly the Lebanon model. In other words, [this would create] an area where there is no central power or rule able to operate, where there is no army to control -- because nobody would conceive of again introducing the Jordanian Army into Judaea and Samaria -- that is, actually creating a state within a state as in the Lebanon model. Therefore, the government's position on this issue is unambiguous and firm.

Israel proposed the autonomy plan, by which the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District may run their own lives. The issue of security -- and settlement is a central component of this security -- would be in the hands of Israel, whether internal or external security, not for a limited period of time but forever.

[Correspondent Haviva Roger] Minister Sharon said that after every war waged in the past, Israel did not have the spiritual strength to fully use the military achievements to accomplish what it had to in the political sphere.

[Sharon] We must stand firmly in the face of attempts to break the willpower of this people to achieve their due rights. There is a link between the remarks being made and the goal, whereby the government will eventually fail to reach these achievements, we have reached a situation where the desire to rule, the lust to return to the seat of power, have overcome national interests; it has already overpowered national interests. [end recording]

Minister Sharon denied reports alleging that he had discussed the distribution of power after Menahem Begin's retirement. He said he had never done anything but try and close ranks. The defense minister was speaking before Herut activists in Haifa, and his remarks were reported by our correspondent Haviva Roger.

ERLICH ON SETTLEMENTS, RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

TA301026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Simha Ehrlich, deputy prime minister and agriculture minister, toured the Jordan Rift Valley this week after having conducted his first official tour of Judaea and Samaria last week.

Beyond the operative significance, these tours certainly carry a political significance these days when the United States is promoting President Reagan's plan and the deterioration in relations between Israel and Egypt is continuing. Our correspondent Shalom Oren spoke with Ehrlich about some of the issues which kept us busy this week, including El Al, Egypt and Lebanon, but first and foremost, the government's settlement policy, which the deputy prime minister directs.

[Begin recording] [Ehrlich] I can say that in the first few years the Jordan Rift Valley received more funds while Samaria received very little or hardly any funds. In the last few years, a greater emphasis was put on Judaea and Samaria. I am now going to try to balance the two, to funnel funds to the Jordan Rift Valley, not in order to take them away from Judaea and Samaria, but to extend the funds to the former area to efficiently strengthen its economic basis.

[Question] How do you plan to balance the funds?

[Answer] I will seek the cooperation of various government ministries and the Settlement Department of the Zionist federation; I will also recommend the appointment of an interministerial team to draft a master for developing an agricultural and industrial infrastructure for this area.

[Question] Will you place this issue on the agenda of the Ministeral Committee on Settlement Affairs?

[Answer] This issue does not pertain to the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs. First of all, I have to check it out with the prime minister who in turn will summon the relevant ministers to establish such an interministerial team.

[Question] What is your order of priorities beyond the Green Line?

[Answer] You have asked me a very general question. The order of priorities will be according to objective needs. For example, today I am touring the Jordan Rift Valley and meeting the settlers. I see it as the first priority to help the settlers with their problems and strengthen their economic basis.

[Question] What about the political aspect?

[Answer] There is no difference whatsoever.

[Question] Will new settlements be established in the near future?

[Answer] They will be established according to needs and plans. The matter is being studied and developed; if there is any outcome, it will be raised before the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs.

[Question] Even if the Americans do not like it?

[Answer] What is that? Do we have to take national actions based on whether the Americans like them or not? The Americans sometimes express their opinion, but that should not have an impact on what we have to do.

[Question] Today we saw groundbreaking work by the Jordan River, almost on the waterline. Might this not create political problems with our eastern neighbor?

[Answer] I cannot see any reason for the creation of political problems with our eastern neighbor.

[Question] Let us move to another subject: relations with Egypt. Are you worried about what has been happening in the last few weeks and months?

[Answer] I am certainly aware of what I would call the worsening of relations or the postponement of normalization. We also know the reason for it, but I must say that this is a transitory process and I am convinced that within a relatively short period of time relations will return to normal.

[Question] What will cause relations with Egypt to return to normal?

[Answer] First of all: time. Time heals wounds. After all, we all know that Operation Peace for Galilee led to the current Egyptian position. Since the operation is now behind us, I hope that all the non-Lebanese and foreign forces in Lebanon will leave it, first of all the PLO, then the Syrians and then us. Then there will be no reason for relations not to return to normal.

[Question] Are you disappointed at the attitude of the new Lebanese president toward Israel?

[Answer] I do not know this president; there are those who know him. I had expected more and I am certainly a little bit disappointed, but not too much. [end recording]

SUBCOMMITTEE DECIDES TO SPEED UP SETTLEMENTS

TA312043 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Yig'al Goren reports that a subcommittee of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, under Minister Yuval Ne'eman, decided today to speed up the establishment of six new settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The intention is to complete their establishment by the beginning of April 1983.

SYRIA FIRES MISSILES AT IDF AIRCRAFT 31 OCT

'Severe Violation'

TA311252 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1250 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Two surface-to-air missiles were fired this morning at air force aircraft that wereon a regular patrol flight over the Al-Biqa' area. The IDF spokesman reports that all our aircraft are safe. The missiles were fired from a battery situated within Syrian territory. Israel regards this act as a severe violation of the cease-fire agreement.

Shamir Comments

TA311723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that Israel views with gravity the Syrians' attempt to attack [IDF] air force planes. Speaking in an interview on Jerusalem television's Arabic language program, he warned that such actions are liable to delay the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon. He said that the last few months have seen several Syrian attempts to escalate and exacerbate the situation. On relations with Egypt, Shamir said that Cairo is not fulfilling most of the agreements that were signed with it.

'Military Sources' Comment

TA311525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1513 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal -- live]

[Text] The missile fire from inside Syrian territory is a serious act of aggression, military sources have said, adding that this is a violation of the cease-fire agreement. The Syrians have stationed along their border with Lebanon some 15 missile batteries of all sorts of types, including Sam-6, Sam-3 and Sam-2's. The area of Juddayyat Yabus experienced a substantial fleshing-out toward the end of the war. The missiles in that area, which is an enclave of sorts, stretching westward in the direction of Al-Biqa', east of As-Sultan Ya'qub at-Tahta, in fact control all of the Al-Biqa' area.

If last time, on 24 July, a Syrian missile was fired from near the Syrian-Lebanese border, this time it was evident that the missiles were fired from inside Syria. About 2 months ago, on 24 July, an Israeli F-4 was shot down by such missile fire. Today the missiles missed, and the air force planes that were on a routine patrol mission returned safely to base.

FIGURES REACT TO 'ARAFAT CALL FOR DIALOGUE

TA291958 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Knesset members from the Labor Party and MAPAM have expressed willingness to meet with the PLO figures following an intiative made by that organization. A discussion about the possibility of such a meeting was held after the session of the Palestine National Council this week. PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told an Italian newspaper today that his organization wants to begin a dialogue with Israeli figures who oppose the Begin government. Among those figures, 'Arafat mentioned the Peace Now Movement. Previously, the PLO representatives in Rome (Nimr Hamad), said that the PLO wants to open a dialogue with the Labor Party. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari adds details about these recent developments.

[Ya'ari -- live] The PLO's effort to initiate negotiations with the Laobr Party is no longer confined solely to declarations of intention. During the past several weeks, quiet clarifications were held about a plan born with PLO encouragement to convene in Italy next Thursday, 4 November, a sort of closed seminar of some of the PLO's figures with some Alignment MK's under the heading of a talk between enemies. Italy's four large parties offered to host this meeting, and the man who conducted the negotiations on behalf of the PLO was the organizations's representative in Rome, (Nimr Hamad), the man who last publicly declared a willingness to open a dialogue with the Labor Party.

MK's from the Labor Party and MAPAM who were addressed expressed readiness to consider the idea, while presenting explicit conditions. However, no official discussion about this matter has been held in the Labor Party institutions and the party's spokesmen has said that his party is not prepared for a dialogue with the PLO because the PLO has not complied with the conditions set by the Alignment platform concerning negotiations with Palestinian figures. These conditions are that they want peace, that they recognize Israel's right to exist, and that they do not engage in terrorism.

In the contacts held with (Nimr Hamad) via a third party, it was made clear that the PLO has reached the conclusion that there is not much use, from its point of view, in continuing contacts with leftist figures in Israel.

Therefore, so it was reported on behalf of Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO wants to hold a dialogue with the most senior figures in the Labor Party. PLO representatives repeatedly pledged that their organization is at the threshhold of a significant change in its positions. However, during the clarifications, the several draft proposals formulated for defining the framework of the meeting did not appear satisfactory. Thus, a few days ago it was decided to postpone the discussion about the idea of the meeting until after the session of the Palestine National Council, a sort of PLO parliament, to be held apparently in Tunis. 'Arafat recently committed himself to propose at this meeting changes in the PLO's positions toward Israel. It should be noted that the PLO suggested that in the meeting with Labor Party MK's, some members of the PLO's Central Committee would participate, including Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, considered the number three man in Fatah, and Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, now staying in Cairo, and Hanna Nasir, staying in Amman. Also some lower-ranking PLO activists would participate, such as Dr 'Isam as-Sartawi, 'Arafat's Hebrew translator 'Imad Shakkur Professors Edward Sa'id, 'Isam Sharabi and others.

Some of the Alignment MK's demanded from the outset that the PLO be represented in any meeting by its highest rank, and were not satisfied with the names that were suggested. More importantly, they all insisted that during the drafting of the meeting's agenda, the PLO make in advance a significant public step toward recognizing Israel's right ot exist. In the final draft that was submitted, this condition was not fulfilled, and as a result, direct contacts have not been held. But the possibility apparently still exists.

On of the MK's they addressed was Aharon Har'el.

[Begin previously recorded videotape] [Har'el] It is possible in the PLO, also following the Lebanon war, when it became clear to them that their infrastructure was crumbling, the groups who thought that the problem must be solved by negotiations gained strength. If it indeed emerges that a change has occurred in the PLO, those same circles must be spoken with. If a change has occurred, if it emerges that this is only a passing episode, nothing will happen.

[Eytan Oren] Former Prime Minster Yitzhaq Rabin has said that the PLO is to be met only on the battlefield. Do your statements show a significant turning point in the Labor Party's approach?

[Answer] I am not now speaking in anyone's name. I am only speaking in my own name. And I know that many members share my view -- in the Labor Party and outside of it also, also in parties in the coalition -- this is not a question of a turning point in the central approach. The turning point is in the PLO, if indeed a change has occurred. That is, if the PLO abandons the path according to which the solution to the problem lies in terrorism, then it is not the same PLO. And we must take advantage of this opportunity. [end videotape]

Peres Comments

TA311730 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1540 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said today that President Reagan's peace plan contains important elements that are very similar to the Alignment position. Peres was speaking at a meeting of Labor Party activists, marking the beginning of a party information drive. Our correspondent Doron Rosenblum has recorded parts of Peres' speech:

[Begin recording] [Peres] I want to say very briefly what we accept in the Reagan plan. First, its nonsupport for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Second, no negotiations with the PLO as long as the PLO does not change its positions. Third, nonrecognition of the right of self-determination fo the territories' inhabitants, since such recognition is half a Palestinian state or a potential Palestinian state. Fourth, no return to the 1967 borders. Fifth, a connection between the West Bank and Jordan, in a Jordanian-Palestinian framework for solving the Palestinian problem. Sixth, a united Jerusalem, and in our view also, not subject for negotiations. It will remain the eternal capital of greater Israel. [applause]

[Rosenblum] Shim'on Peres reiterated the Alignment position: No negotiations are to be held with the PLO and the establishment of a Palestinian state is not to be allowed. Labor Party representatives will not take part in PLO public relations ploys, as he termed them.

[Perez] No one from the Labor Party has been or will be authorized to go to Rome to participate in a PLO public relations gimmick. The Labor Party unequivocally rejects the establishment of a Palestinian state, and in any case, rejects negotiations with a PLO that supports the destruction of Israel, terrorism, and constantly resorts to propaganda tricks. This time, I think, the PLO also wants to torpedo the chance for negotiations with Jordan. [end recording]

Rabin Comments

TA302001 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] In reaction to a television program last night, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said that he views with great severity the fact that Labor Party members are helping the PLO in its attempts to bypass the U.S. position. Rabin told our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, that all these attempts to maintain contacts with the PLO are a serious mistake since the United States expressed in the Reagan plan opposition to granting the Palestinians self-determination.

If the PLO had wanted to mend its ways, Rabin said, it would have done so jointly with the United States and thereby won its recognition, but now it is seeking an Achilles' heel to overcome the U.S. objection.

Rabin said he would demand clarifications on this matter at the Political Bureau meeting.

Further Rabin Remarks

TA312010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Statement by Labor Party MK Yitzhaq Rabin at Tel Aviv meeting of Labor Party on 31 October -- videotaped]

[Text] I think that Shim'on Peres' announcement against negotiations with the PLO and participation in their propaganda ploy is in harmony with the Labor Party's resolutions and the Alignment's election platform. I hope that this will end all the efforts that have been made -- and I do not know whose idea they were or with whose authority they were made -- to look for negotiations with the PLO.

However, the very fact that this incident occurred is, I think, most grave. I have no doubt that at this stage it hurts Israel's interests. I also think it hurts the Labor Party's image, while some of its members are trying to present the party in a distorted light to the Israeli public and to the Jewish public in the world.

MAPAM'S Shem-Tov Comments

TA311407 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1350 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 31 Oct (ITIM) -- MAPAM Secretary General Victor Shem-Tov said today that the calls issued by PLO members for a dialogue with Israel should be assessed and that, "If the PLO recognizes Israel, one ought to enter into negotiations with it."

Shem-Tov was speaking at the opening session of the MAPAM political debate in the party center forum which convened at the Zavta Hall in Tel Aviv. He said that any shift in the PLO should be welcomed. He said that recently there have been increasing signs of a clash of schools of thought in that organization, which is why its nonaggressive aspect should be valued.

The MAPAM secretary general noted that there has similarly been a positive turn in the Arab world and that currently there are such processes in the Middle East that could bring about peace. He emphasized that the left in Israel will effect peace with neighbors. He urged a territorial compromise and the incorporation of Jordan into the negotiations with the Palestinians. He said a change has also occurred among the Israeli public in its view of the war in Lebanon. He added that at present there is agitation in the coalition parties against the war.

Then Shem-Tov contended that neither the government's political nor its strategic objectives set for the war in Lebanon were achieved. The PLO has not been liquidated in Lebanon, either from the military or from the political aspect, and it maintains a representation in Beirut. The goal of bringing order to Lebanon and establishing a strong government there has likewise proved to be an illusion. Currently the Cabinet is striving and struggling to guarantee a 45-km buffer zone, but this could have been attained even after 3 days of fighting.

He pointed out that this objective of having an area of 45 km from the northern border clear of arms should secure the region against terrorist penetration. Shem-Tov noted that some people say that it would have been better for Israel to have a dispersed Syrian Army rather than one concentrated in one place. He expressed support for the Reagan plan which he thinks is not detrimental to Israel's security and is not in conflict with the Camp David accords.

Shem-Tov announced that MAPAM and the Alignment were launching an information campaign. He believes that Prime Minister Menahem Begin is seriously considering holding early elections, "and we must unite our ranks and face the Likud -- we had better be ready."

MK's Will Not Meet PLO

TA300926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Alignment Knesset members will apparently not attend the meeting in Rome with PLO representatives. The meeting is scheduled to be held next week for the purpose of bringing PLO personalities and members of Israeli Zionist parties together.

MK Yosi Sarid has also said that he is willing to meet alone with Yasir 'Arafat if it is agreed to and stated beforehand that the meeting is designed to break the ground for mutual recognition and reconciliation between the two nations. Sarid said he would not go to Rome because he was not interested in meeting second-rank PLO officials whose statements are not binding on the organizations and which are bound to be denied.

'MILITARY SOURCES' CONCERNED ABOUT LEBANON ATTACKS

TA010758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Military sources say the army is concerned about the growing number of attacks on soldiers in Lebanon, and they issued new restrictions on travel there. There is also the possibility that women soldiers may be removed from forward posts. The army has instructed the soldiers to travel only when necessary and whenever possible, in convoys.

IDF OFFICER MEDIATES DRUZE-CHRISTIAN FIGHTING

TA312023 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The exchanges of fire between Druz and Christians in the 'Alayh area stopped this evening. Our military correspondent has reported that the cease-fire was achieved via the mediation of an IDF officer, but that there was no intervention by IDF soldiers in the fighting. The fighting between the Druze and the Christians continued throughout the day, both sides using missiles, canons and machineguns. The Christian radio stations claimed that the Druze initiated the fighting.

'TERRORISTS' TRY TO INFILTRATE AN-NABATIYAH

TA310537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Yesterday the terrorists tried to bring a jeep loaded with explosives, handgrenades and RPG shells into An-Nabatiyah. However, the jeep broke down, the terrorists abandoned it in the town center and local inhabitants summoned the IDF. Searches were conducted but no suspects were arrested.

In the last few days, a reorganization of the terrorists in southern Lebanon has been discerned. Tension between the IDF and local inhabitants has also heightened due to the large number of terrorists incidents last week. The IDF has reiterated its strict regulations pertaining to movements within Lebanon which are perceived as being of a dangerous nature.

EXPLOSIVE CHARGE DISCOVERED IN KEFAR SAVA

TA010757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] An explosive charge was discovered and dismantled without causing any casualties or damage in Kefar Sava. Our correspondent Huller reports that the charge was found in a plastic container. It was discovered near the wall of the civil guard headquarters by a municipality worker. He summoned the police, and bomb disposal experts exploded the charge. The police have closed off the area and begun investigations.

EXPLOSION INJURIES TWO PALESTINIANS IN HEBRON

NC291611 Paris AFP in English 1604 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Jerusalem, Oct 29 (AFP) -- Two Palestinian youths were injured when a grenade exploded in the courtyard of a secondary school in Hebron on the Israeli occupied West Bank, a Palestinian source reported. The explosion occurred just before the start of a football match, the source added. Israeli military sources said Israeli soldiers later found a second grenade at the school and safely detonated it. The two students were taken to hospital.

VILLAGE LEAGUE MEMBERS ATTACK BI'R ZAYT STUDENTS

TA010913 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Nov 82 p 2

[Report by Tzvi Bar'el]

[Text] Members of the area village leagues have assaulted Bi'r Zayt University students. The students arrived at the village of As-Sira ash-Shamaliyah in Nabulus District to help the local inhabitants pick olives, as part of the volunteer work each student has to put in.

The Nabulus Area Village League members demanded that the students present their identity cards, and when they refused, the league members beat them up and summoned the border police.

The police, together with the members of area village leagues, gathered the students and locked them up in the area village league building and in the village, and only later were they transferred to the military government building and subsequently released.

ZAQ: ISRAEL HELPS OTHERS, BUT GETS NO THANKS

TA281208 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Oct 82 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Exaggerated Agility"]

[Text] They invited the Syrian Army to curb the PLO's bid to take over Lebanon.

-- They begged and pleaded with the IDF to enter Lebanon to get rid of the conquering Syrian Army and get rid of the state within a state established by the PLO in Lebanon.

-- They invited the Americans, the French and the Italians to Beirut so that the IDF could get out of the Lebanese capital.

-- And now they are inviting 30,000 foreign soldiers, American, French, British, Italian, Belgian, and Moroccan, to guarantee that the Syrian forces and the IDF and, of course, the PLO as well, leave all of Lebanon.

They -- the Christians in Lebanon -- always need someone to do this for them. Let the Syrians remove the PLO and let the IDF remove the Syrians and let the Americans remove the IDF. And let someone help them stabilize a government and elect a president

And us? We are always ready to help others.

-- We helped King Husayn to beat the PLO and expel the Syrian tanks that invaded Jordan (September 1970).

-- We helped the Christians in Lebanon to stand up against the PLO forces and the Muslims in Lebanon during the civil war that lasted for 7 years.

-- We helped stabilize the new regime in Lebanon by expelling the Syrian Army and the PLO forces from Beirut.

-- We helped the Americans strengthen their status in the Middle East with a victory over the allies of the Soviet Union in the area.

-- We helped King Husayn to politically overcome the PLO by destroying the military infrastructure of that organization.

We keep on helping others, and the others are most grateful! We helped in the election of Amin al-Jumayyil and he declares that he will not sign a peace treaty with Israel. We helped the Americans by strengthening their status in the area, and in return -- the day of the PLO evacuation from Beirut -- they submitted the Reagan plan to us. And last night we were given reports from Washington that the pro-Israeli lobby there is now opening an information campaign in the United States to convince the administration of the need to establish U.S. bases in Israel.

It is to be hoped that the leaders of that lobby, who rushed to express their support for the Reagan plan, against the views of the Government of Israel, have now rushed into this campaign without prior consultations with the Government of Israel, because if this is not so, the impression is created that we must always serve others. And this is not so. We are not like the Christians in Lebanon who want others to do the work for them, who want others to pluck the chestnuts out of the fire for them. On the other hand, we do not have to rake out all the embers in the Middle East.

BRIEFS

USSR IMMIGRATION STATISTICS -- Only 577 Jews immigrated to Israel from the beginning of this year up until the end of September. In the first 9 months of the year, the Soviets have granted exit permits to 2,200 Jews but 75 percent of them stayed in Vienna. It should be noted that in the same period last year 8,900 Jews left the Soviet Union. Only 57 Jews immigrated to Israel from the Soviet Union this September. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Oct 82 p 8 TA]

NORTH AMERICAN IMMIGRATION STATISTICS -- There was a 15 percent increase in the number of immigrants from North America in the first 9 months of this year compared to the same period last year. This was reported by Moshe Shechter, the director of the North American Immigration Center, who noted that the number does not include those who decided to stay in Israel during a tour of Israel, or Israelis who return to Israel after a prolonged stay abroad. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Oct 82 TA]

U.S. ARMS SALES -- U.S. arms sales to Israel in fiscal 1982 totaled only $639 million, but sales are likely to rise sharply next year if the proposed deal of 75 F-16 jets go ahead. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Oct 82 TA]

ALGERIA

ABDELGHANI RETURNS AFTER VISIT TO MAURITANIA

LD302050 Algiers APS in English 1505 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, Politburo member, prime minister was back on Thursday to Algiers at the end of a three-day visit in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member, foreign affairs minister, who attended in Bamako the meeting of foreign affairs ministers from the Saharan states of Mali and Mauritania joined by Niger foreign affairs minister.

LIBYA

REPORTAGE ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S VISIT TO NORTH KOREA

For Pyongyang media reportage on Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit to North Korea beginning 29 October, including meetings with Kim Il-song and a banquet speech, see the North Korea section of the 1 November Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

HASSAN'S REMARKS ON RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL SCORED

LD292036 Tripoli JANA in English 1400 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 12, October 29, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- The political editor of JANA issued the following statement: The pronouncements of King Hassan II of Morocco in Washington about the Arab struggle with enemy being a legal rather than cultural one is still being met with wrath and anger of the Arab masses throughout the nation. In doing so Hassan II presented himself to Washington's politicians as an obedient stooge willing to serve imperialism, aid the Zionist movement and its aims by being an organ of Zionism and proving to be one of its known agents emulating its corrupt and renegade figures in the Arab world.

Thus, with such insolence, Hassan II wanted to defame the Arab nation's struggle and to overturn all historic facts which affirm that the struggle against the Zionist enemy is civilizational conflict between the Arab nation and Zionism. There could be no co-existence between them. Hassan II departed from his written text and told the journalists: "I affirm that our presence in Washington, if we want to be logical, leads us to say that we want to live in peace with a recognised Israel. Otherwise, we would not have been here."

Undoubtedly, the main outcome is that Hassan II has not yet learnt from history. But let Hassan II remember that his fate will be similar to that of traitor As-Sadat and traitors King 'Abdallah, Nuri Sa'id and Idris Sanussi who thought that our great Arab nation would accept imperialist schemes aimed at imposing Zionism on the Arab homeland.

The clear and official recognition of the Zionist enemy by Hassan II and his intentional distortion of truth about the history of the Arab nation and his ignoring its national struggle and cultural conflict with the Zionist enemy, comes as declared stand on a professional tradesmen in politics and of a king who has linked himself through his reign with U.S. imperialism and Zionist circles which the Moroccan Jewish community form one of its important links.

The undeclared content of this stand is inspired from the strong ties of the puppet king with U.S. imperialist plots and his policies which meet with the interest of the Zionist enemy. Through the axes opened by the capitulatory Camp David accords, Hassan II tried to say it all with the American President whose hands are still stained with the blood of the civilians massacred in Sabra and Shatila.

He intended to show his loyalty to the U.S.A. and the Zionist enemy as obedient servant and subjugated slave in an ideal way and geared himself to serve their interests and objectives in the area challenging the whole Arab nation and distorting its history with countless heroic acts and sacrifices.

In this respect, he alleged that the conflict between the Arab nation and the Zionist enemy is that of law and rights and that it is no longer a conflict of power, culture or history.

JABIR, HUNGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER HOLD TALKS

LD311614 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] A meeting was held this morning between Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, and Gen Lajos Czinege, Hungarian minister of defense, who is currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by members of the delegation accompanying the guest minister and by a number of officers of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces.

Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, when welcoming the Hungarian minister, pointed out that the meeting is one of a series held between the two countries contributing to deepening joint understanding and relations between the two peoples, which have witnessed tangible development in all spheres since the Great Fatah.

Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir said the vicious assault by imperialism on the forces of freedom and progress in the world, and which is now taking place in the Arab region, and our courageous challenge to this aggression, is proof of our solid stand vis-a-vis the cause of freedom and progress. The brigadier noted the unlimited military and political support by U.S. imperialism for the Zionist train of death which is sweeping over the whole pan-Arab existence from the Atlantic to the Gulf. It swept over and occupied Palestine, it temporarily took Egypt from the Arab region, and recently it swept over Lebanon at artillery fire distance from Damascus. All this places on the shoulders of the Jamahiriyah and its revolutionary forces pan-Arab responsibilities to halt the Israeli train of death driven by an American energy. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and all the living forces of its nation, are struggling to deter this aggression. In doing so it allies itself with all forces of progress in the world, foremost, the socialist countries, headed by the Soviet Union, the natural and historic ally of the Arab nation and which strengthened the struggle of the Arab nation throughout the years of struggle under the leadership of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir.

Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir pointed out that the socialist countries should comprehend this stage, the stage of the progressive Arab forces, struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction, and also the repercussions of this on the cause of freedom and progress in the world. U.S. imperialism is aiming to make the Arab region a region of influence and occupation tied to its strategy. It uses the Israelis as a spearhead to plunge into the Arab body, and uses Arab reaction as a tool to bridle the potential of the Arab mases and to prevent them from massing their material and moral resources to confront the Zionist entity from which the train of death is released and behind which stands imperialism.

Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir added that any look at the map of the Arab homeland without an examination of the revolutionary progressive vision leads friendly forces to adopt postures which are not of an equivalent deterrence to the imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab lands. Subsequently, the ferocity of the imperialist aggressive actions are increased and the burden of repelling the aggression falls on the shoulder of the Arab progressive forces, which are headed by and (?vanguarded by) the Jamahiriyah.

Brig Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir made a speech in which he stressed that the Jamahiriyah has decided to courageously challenge the Zionist train of death to stop it, because it threatens the existence of the Arab nation and destroys its hopes over its own land. This choice is a necessity and not just a duty. He pointed out that the struggle against this sweeping danger of the three heads -- imperialism, Zionism and reaction -- is producing new complications for the Arab strugglers, hence the Arab masses look to all their friends to support their struggle against the common enemy. They consider the cause of freedom to be indivisable and the struggle against the Arab nation to be a common objective.

The Hungarian minister noted the growing relations between Arab Libyan and Hungarian peoples. He pointed out that Hungary will stand with the Arab people in confronting the imperialist-Zionist aggression because it represents a common danger. The Hungarian minister expressed his appreciation for the warmth of the hospitality extended him.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM BAMAKO MEETING

AB291639 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Maj Ould Ahmed Minnih, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned this morning to Nouakchott from Bamako where he participated in the meeting of ministers from Sahel countries, Algeria, Mali and Niger. In a statement to the press, Maj Ahmed Ould Minnih expressed pleasure over the atmosphere of friendship and fraternity that prevailed at this meeting which was held in accordance with the recommendation of the Algiers summit of 31 August. The minister stated that he had discussions with his counterparts at the meeting on all aspects of issues of mutual interest, especially the issue of the holding of the 19th OAU Summit in Tripoli as initially stipulated. Finally, he thanked the Malian authorities for the warm welcome and generous hospitality given him.

NEW CMSN PERMANENT SECRETARY APPOINTED 29 OCT

AB291835 Paris AFP in French 1716 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Nouakchott, 29 Oct (AFP) -- On Friday, Maj Cheikh Sidi Ahmed Ould Baba Mine was appointed permanent secretary of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN], the ruling organ in Mauritania. This was announced in a communique published in the Mauritanian capital.

MOROCCO

MEMORANDUM CRITICIZES NYERERE REMARKS ON SAHARA

LD311254 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Nairobi, 31 Oct (MAP) -- The Moroccan Embassy in Nairobi has published a memorandum in reply to the statement by Tanzanian President Nyerere regarding the Moroccan Sahara. It explained that at a time when Africa is trying to dress its wounds and reunite its ranks, the Tanzanian president is trying hard to drown Africa in chaos and confusion.

The memorandum added that Nyerere's statement is contrary to the united and agreed African position regarding the Saharan issue. It also explained that these statements coming from a member of the followup committee can only be regarded as an act which aims to undermine this committee.

After the memorandum mentioned Nyerere's behavior which aims at encouraging secessionist movements in Africa, his maneuvers against many countries of the continent, the massacre he has perpetrated against the people of Zanzibar and the horrifying repressions he has been carrying out against the Tanzanian people, it pointed out that Nyerere, in light of these extremely shameful acts, cannot teach lessons to anyone and his attempts to divert attention from the pain suffered by millions of Tanzanians cannot deceive anyone.

SUDAN

COUNTRY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN OAU TRIPOLI SUMMIT

JN311556 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 31 Oct (SUNA) -- It was announced here today that Sudan will not participate in the OAU summit conference scheduled to be held in Tripoli on 23 November, nor will it participate in the OAU Ministerial Council meetings scheduled to be held in Tripoli on 15 November.

A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry noted President Numayri's statements during a press conference which he held upon returning home from Egypt in which he said Sudan and Egypt would welcome this summit provided it was held in a place other than Tripoli and they preferred the headquarters of the OAU.

The source noted Sudan's position that Libya is not qualified to lead the organization. This was pointed out by President Numayri during his press conference when he quoted Chadian President Hissein Habre as saying Libya was currently backing some opposition Chadian factions, an act which constitutes Libyan interference or a renewal of its interference. President Numayri said the African nation must realize that Libya has confirmed that it is not suitable to lead the OAU.

The source said President Numayri and Guinean President Sekou Toure affirmed that the announcement by the organization's administrative secretary during a budget meeting in which he accepted the Polisario's membership was a grave mistake. The two leaders said the organization's administrative secretary should be punished for his betrayal of Africa and the Sahara Commission formed by the Nairobi conference should hold a referendum and submit an integrated report to the OAU. The source cited President Numayri as saying that some countries, such as Libya and Algeria, had conspired to prevent the commission from completing its tasks.

NUMAYRI RECEIVES WRITTEN MESSAGE FROM REAGAN

JN301816 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Oct (SUNA) -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan has praised Sudan's role, leadership and international and regional policy. He also praised Sudan's economic policy.

In his written message, which President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received today, President Reagan touched on bilateral relations between the two countries, particularly in the economic field. He also touched on the steps being adopted by the United States, which has a long history of solving economic crises.

The message was conveyed by William Luntz, the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum. President Numayri and the U.S. ambassador discussed several issues of mutual interest to the two countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR TO ABSTAIN 'TEMPORARILY' FROM OAU SUMMIT

LD292040 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Government has issued a statement which confirms that the SDAR will voluntarily and temporarily abstain from the 19th OAU summit conference in order to frustrate the Moroccan-U.S. maneuvers against Africa and its organization.

The statement added that African states are called upon to shoulder their responsibility toward the SDAR an OAU member which is being harmed by an expansionist state which has been waging a campaign to destabilize the entire continent.

Mohamed Fidati, minister adviser to the SDAR prime minister, said in a statement to APS that the decision was taken in view of some African circumstances and particularly the deliberate U.S. imperialist attempts which are relentlessly aimed at undermining the OAU with the aid of the [word indistinct] regimes at any cost for the sake of strengthening the OAU, of whose basic principles, he said, is the liberation of the African Continent.

The Saharan official added that the SDAR, a full member of the OAU, intends to strengthen this great gain achieved by the Saharan people. It will carry out all its obligations of strengthening the OAU.

In conclusion, he said that we have a common will with the African countries which sincerely work to strenthen our organization and Africa cannot but (? appreciate) our decision which will restore to the Saharan people their rights.

ETHIOPIA

MARIAM, YUGOSLAVIA'S STAMBOLIC BEGIN TALKS

EA301956 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and the visiting president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Comrade Petar Stambolic, this morning held their first round of official talks on bilateral relations and international issues. The talks dealt with ways of further strengthening the growing mutual ties and closer cooperation between the two countries, and on the current international situation.

Talks Continue

EA312212 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu and Comrade Petar Stambolic held private talks this afternoon. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, and Comrade Petar Stambolic, president of the SFRY, discussed cooperation and friendship between Ethiopia and Yugoslavia and current international issues.

Present during the talks, which were held at the National Palace, were Comrade Dr Gedle-Giorgis Felleke, foreign minister and COPWE Central Committee Member, and Comrade Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs of the SFRY.

Stambolic Banquet Speech

NC311503 Paris AFP in English 1413 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, Oct 31 (AFP) -- Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic has made a strong plea for the continued survival and strengthening of the Organization of African Unity and the Nonaligned Movement, describing both as having "irreplaceable" roles.

Mr Stambolic said last night in the course of a visit to Ethiopia that trends towards the transformation of Africa into an area of great power rivalry and political and ideological polarization benefitting foreign interests only was "most dangerous".

Speaking at a state banquet in his honour, he cited as examples of such polarization problems related to the situation in Western Sahara, Chad, the Horn of Africa and southern Africa.

He emphasized the role of the OAU which, he said, "reflects the authentic interests of the peoples of Africa" and was called upon to deal with the complex problems facing the continent.

In a clear reference to the serious split in the OAU over the Western Sahara issue, Mr Stambolic said Yugoslavia supported efforts by African countries to overcome the organisation's difficulties and preserve its unity and capacity to act.

Mr Stambolic was the second European leader to call for preservation of the OAU in the face of its crisis. French President Francois Mitterrand made a similar plea in Kinshasa last month at the annual French-African summit.

The Yugoslav president, who arrived in the Ethiopian capital for a three-day official visit late Friday, was last night decorated by his host Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam.

He was cited for his contributions to the anti-fascist struggle and his efforts in strengthening friendship between Ethiopia and Yugoslavia.

In a wide-ranging speech, the Yugoslav leader touched on the global economic crisis and its impact on the Third World. The dangers of power politics, the Iran-Iraq war and notably the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Israel's "ruthless" invasion of Lebanon and the "genocide" of the Palestinian population had awoken the conscience of mankind, he said.

Describing all these problems as challenges to which countries of the Nonaligned Movement must respond, Mr Stambolic said that in efforts to strengthen the movement's unity, it must be recognized that its original principles were also "irreplaceable".

On relations between Yugoslavia and Ethiopia, he called for "closer linkage of our economies and greater self-reliance" as serving their long-term interests.

KENYA

FOREIGN MINISTER PREDICTS OAU SUMMIT IN LIBYA

EA291800 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dr Robert Ouko has said that the OAU summit meeting which failed to take place in Libya will now take place there next month. Dr Ouko said this during a lecture on the UN and world peace at Menengai Hall in Nakuru on Wednesday night.

He hailed President Moi for his untiring efforts to ensure that the organization remains united and that the African countries remain undivided. Saying that Namibian independence is inevitable and imminent, Dr Ouko accused Pretoria of engaging in destabilization tactics aimed at creating disunity among the neighboring countries. Dr Ouko dismissed South African military power as a myth which will not stand in the way of Namibian independence.

23 November Summit Possible

AB300942 Paris AFP in French 0909 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Nairobi, 30 Oct (AFP) -- An OAU summit could take place in Tripoli, Libya, on 23 November, it is learned from diplomatic sources in Nairobi.

This meeting, which would take place without the SDAR, would be prepared by a Ministerial Council meeting which will take place starting 15 November under the same conditions, the same source adds.

These dates and the form of this meeting were proposed by the "African contact group" set up last August following the failure of the OAU summit, which was boycotted by many African states, including Morocco, because of the admission of the SDAR to the pan-African assembly.

The SDAR announced at Tindouf, Algeria, on Friday that it will abstain "voluntarily and temporarily" from participating in the next OAU summit. The member states should now make their opinions known on the dates suggested before it becomes final, the same source states.

MORE AIR FORCE REBELS SENTENCED TO JAIL

EA292012 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Two courts martial sitting at the Langata barracks today sentenced 18 servicemen of the former Kenya Air Force to jail terms ranging from 4 to 19 years after they pleaded guilty to charges of mutiny. The court noted that senior NCO's did not use their positions to prevent the mutiny and instead obeyed unlawful commands from their juniors.

Two servicemen who disassociated themselves from their mutinous actions were dismissed from the armed forces. Senior Private (Husein Juma Tchangoma) disobeyed the rebels' order to guard the Eastleigh runway and fled, while Senior Private (Robinson Wanyonyi Waluchati) hid and later fled from the base before loyal forces began their operations.

The court martials were presided over by Brigadier Shigolli and Brigadier Thirimu.

Meanwhile, the hearing of a case in which Corporal Bramwel Injeni of the former Kenyan Air Force is charged with treason opens on Monday. The accused, who is the first rebel to be charged with treason, has been mentioned in the trials of the rebels as one of the key actors during the August disturbances.

TANZANIA

REVOLUTIONARY PARTY ELECTION RESULTS REPORTED

EA301818 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The results of the elections for the top leadership of COM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi -- Revolutionary Party] have been announced. Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere has been reelected chairman and Ndugu Aboud Jumbe vice chairman of the party for the next 5 years.

According to the announcement at the Diamond Jubilee Hall, where elections were held yesterday, Mwalimu Nyerere won 1,726 yes votes. There were only nine no votes. This means that mwalimu has been elected by 99.37 percent of the total number of delegates to the party national conference. Ndugu Jumbe won 1,716 yes votes, while 19 voters said no to his reelection. He polled 98 percent. Soon after the announcement was made the 1,700 (?party) delegates exploded in cheering and ululation as the two top party leaders resumed their posts.

The list of members who had been elected by the party national conference was also announced this morning, ending 4 days of voting for 130 members of the National Executive Committee. The list includes 40 regional representatives, 10 from the women's group, 5 from the youth group and 5 others to represent the armed forces. Other members of the National Executive Committee are 15 from the mainland group and 15 from the isles. There are also 40 others who were elected from the national group.

The elections of the National Executive Committee come as the culmination of 6 months of a gruelling process which began at the grassroot level. The party national conference is expected to close later today after meeting for 10 days.

NYERERE MAKES SPEECH FOLLOWING REELECTION

EA201830 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 1300 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi -- Revolutionary Party] chairman, Mwalimu Nyerere, has declared that nothing will stop Tanzania from building a socialist and self-reliant nation despite its current economic difficulties. Mwalimu made the declaration in a speech following his reelection by the CCM national conference, which ended this afternoon.

Mwalimu said that before and during the conference Tanzania's enemies had hoped that the party's supreme authority would not elect CCM members who were truly committed to the policy of socialism and self-reliance. Mwalimu noted that the results of the election from the party cells to the national level have clearly proved that Tanzania's enemies were wrong. The party chairman said that on the contrary CCM members have elected party leaders from the cells to national levels who have demonstrated by word and deed their commitment to the building of socialism and self-reliance in Tanzania.

Mwalimu said the most important source of Tanzania's strength, dignity and international place was the unity of the people; indeed, it is their unity that has enabled Tanzanians to support the people of other African countries in their fight for freedom and independence. Mwalimu said, however, that without respect for justice based on Tanzania's commitment to ujamaa [socialism] the unity of the people of Tanzania would be meaningless. Although Tanzania has not succeeded in building a socialist nation, the people of this country are determined to establish a free and socialist state as soon as possible.

The party chairman thanked the delegates for discouraging Tanzania's enemies from awaiting our collapse by electing socialist party leaders and pledged that he, the party vice chairman, Ndugu Abouo Jumbe, and other party leaders will work to the best of their ability to ensure the building of a socialist, self-reliant and free nation.

More on Speech

EA312144 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The chairman of CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi], Mwalimu Nyerere, has said that Tanzania will continue to promote equality and justice by building socialism. Mwalimu pointed out that Tanzanians, who, he said, had no economic power, used unity as their powerful weapon and added that there would be no unity without justice. Mwalimu was addressing the final session of the 10-day national party conference which ended in Dar es Salaam yesterday after his reelection to head the party for the next 5-year term.

He said that had Tanzania been an unjust and segregated society, only the rich would be ruling the country, and justice, he added, came only through socialism, Mwalimu explained that the country's enemies had been blaiming its ujamaa policy for the current economic problems which also affected nonsocialist countries, but, he said, it was in socialist poor countries where people led better lives. He explained that in socialist countries in the Third World poverty was evenly shared, while in the capitalist countries leaders left the burden of poverty to the people. The CCM chairman assured the delegates that Tanzania's problems, including poverty, would be overcome through the efforts of the people.

VICE CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES PARTY CONGRESS 30 OCT

EA312148 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The party vice chairman, Ndugu Aboud Jumbe, has called on the newly elected party leaders to work together in tackling economic problems facing the country.

He told delegates to the just-ended national party conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday that without collective effort by leaders at all levels, it would be difficult to win the economic war. Ndugu Jumbe was speaking after announcement of results of party elections at the national level, which began last Tuesday. Mwalimu Nyerere and Ndugu Jumbe were returned into office by an overwhelming majority of the votes cast.

The vice chairman commended party leaders of the last 5-year term for helping to establish and consolidate the party.

The vice chairman will tomorrow open a 6-day seminar of Tanzanian ambassadors and high commissioners at the Kilimanjaro Hotel in Dar es Salaam. The ambassadors and high commissioners have been in the country attending the party national conference, which ended yesterday. Sources in Dar es Salaam say the main agenda of the seminar would be Mwalimu's directive in the effective utilization of foreign missions, contained in his report to the national party conference. President Nyerere is scheduled to address them on national and international issues. The ambassadors yesterday pledged to effectively utilize the external (?funds) to implement national efforts to revive the ailing economy. The pledge was given in their message to the just-ended national party conference, read on their behalf by the ambassador to the Netherlands, Ngugu Sebastian Chale.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES DPRK VICE PREMIER

EA312208 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Ndugu Cleopa Msuya has said that ignorance is one of the obstacles obstructing agriculture in Tanzania. He said that the people are working hard to expand agriculture, but it is important for knowledgeable persons to join them so as to make possible an increase in production in response to the revolutionary party of Tanzania's [CCM] call for the promotion of agriculture. Ndugu Msuya said this in Dar es Salaam when receiving a delegation from the DPRK that attended the CCM national conference, led by Ndugu Choe Kwang, that republic's vice premier and minister of agriculture. Ndugu Msuya said that Tanzania will continue to fight its economic problems and to encourage the cultivation of both food and cash crops.

The prime minister hailed the cooperation existing between Tanzania and the DPRK in various international fields, including support for the African liberation movements and the strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement.

CHAD

AFP: TENSION BETWEEN SOLDIERS, CIVILIANS

AB291735 Paris AFP in French 1343 GMT 29 Oct 82

[By AFP special correspondent Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Ndjamena, 29 Oct (AFP) -- There is still great tension in southern Chad between the inhabitants of that region and FAN fighters following the new acts of extortion carried out more than 2 months after Mr. Habre's men took control of the southern region, reliable sources in the Chadian capital said.

Last week, Lieutenant Colonel Allafi, the Chadian Armed Forces [FAT] chief of staff under former President Goukouni's administration, was assassinated in Lai, a town in southern Chad, where he sought refuge on 7 June 1982 when the FAN took power in Chad, members of his family indicated in Ndjamena.

The murder of the lieutenant colonel, whose beheaded body was found in the bushes, has increased fears among the local population of a new wave of violence similar to that which erupted in February and March 1979 in that region between northerners and southerners, the same people stated. At that time several hundred FAN sympathizers were massacred by southerners in reprisal for the murders of several fighters from the south detained by Habre's men.

Most of the exaction, described as a "veritable settling of scores," currently opposes FAT elements or sympathizers split up since June against sympathizers and opponents of Colonel Kamougue, the southern region's former leader, it was indicated by several southern public servants just returning to Ndjamena.

Colonel Kamougue's opponents appealed last August to the FAN for help in seizing control of the south, which in effect has been under the control of Hissein Habre's troops since then.

According to witnesses coming back from the south, the local population has accused the FAN of condoning acts of violence carried out in particular in Moundou and Doba by FAT elements, as well as their unjustified aggression against several civilians. The setting up last September of a "military intervention brigade" made up of FAN and FAT soldiers to ensure security in the south does not seem to have yielded the expected results, according to the same witnesses.

The inhabitants in the south also deplore the fact that the FAN is encouraging denunciation. In this regard, several southerners have been questioned or arrested without any verification or inquiry. Others have been caned in the street without any good reason, the same sources added.

Several farmers near Moundou had their treasured belongings -- bicylces, sewing machines, radios -- taken away from them because they had no receipts to prove their ownership.

Few cars move about in Moundou because their owners fear they might be seized by the soldiers, the same witnesses report.

The FAN or FAT officers seem to be unable to control their men. Several FAT officers who have joined Hissein Habre's faction also complain that no "real responsibility" was accorded them in the military administration of the south.

Civilian officials, especially prefects, would like to see their power effectively restored to them, but at present it is being held by the senior officers of the FAN.

A former minister from the south who is opposed to former President Goukouni Queddei characterizes the current events in the southern zone as the FAN's "first political error." The FAN, he said, has forgotten that only the restraint it is capable of in the administration of affairs can convince the southerners of the good intentions of its military intervention in a region whose greater part is opposed to it.

AFP: GOUKOUNI FORCES CONTROL TOWNS IN NORTH

AB301316 Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT 30 Oct 82

[By Bernard Degionni]

[Text] Ndjamena, Oct. 30 (AFP) -- Forces loyal to ousted President Goukouni Oueddei still control four small towns in northern Chad, with support from Libya, and the country's new leader has not ruled out an attack on them, official sources said here.

Over the past few weeks the government has been reinforcing its northern army with units drawn from both the FAN loyal to recently-installed President Hissein Habre, and sections of the old Chadian Armed Forces (FAT) which have rallied to the new administration.

Ex-President Goukouni's Peoples' Armed Forces (FAP), with "major Libyan logistics support", are holding the towns of Vour, Bardai, Zouar and Yebbi-Bou, to the south of the Aozou Strip, the sources said.

Libya has occupied the Aozou Strip since 1973 and challenges the boundary traditionally accorded to Chad.

The officials refused to say whether plans for an offensive had already been drawn up.

However, sources within the FAN command say that the "Libyan problem in Chad is completely unresolved." The new authorities in Ndjamena have made contact with Tripoli since Mr Habre came to power, but the two sides have not discussed the "peaceful return" of the mineral-rich Aozou, they said.

A member of the FAN command said that there could be "no compromise, no negotiations on this issue since Libya is the occupant and Chad will never agree to make any concessions affecting its territorial integrity."

He said that poverty in the north of the country made it simple for Libya to infiltrate the region. "Libya is a source of regular supplies, particularly agricultural goods," he said. The Libyans exploited "family ties between Chadians and Libyans, the religious links, goodwill or cupidity of some of our citizens."

Reliable sources here said that some Libyan soldiers were also based in the Ennedi Heights, in north-east Chad, where they forwarded supplies to a FAP unit commanded by Adoum Togoi, Mr Goukouni's former defence minister.

Meanwhile FAN Chief of Staff Major Idriss Debi told AFP that 150 officers from both the FAN and the FAT held a three-day meeting in Bongor, southern Chad, last week to discuss the formation of a national Chadian army, which is one of Mr Habre's priority objectives.

Major Debi said that as a first step the two armies would be combined and placed under the command of officers from either group. He noted that a first attempt to work this way had been successful in southern Chad in August.

Soldiers from units set up by Chad's other factions would be incorporated progressively into the national army, which would be known as the Chadian patriotic forces, the major said.

ZAIRE

BILATERAL COOPERATION DISCUSSED WITH CHAD

AB291508 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1225 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 28 Oct (AZAP) -- The discussion of the Zaire-Chad joint commission, aimed at reactivating bilateral cooperation in priority sectors to improve the situation in Chad, began on Thursday in the Green Room of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Over a 4-day period Chadian and Zairian experts will consider ways and means for the Executive Council to contribute toward efforts undertaken by the Ndjamena government for the reconstruction of Chad. The Zairian delegation is led by Citizen Bomina Nsoni, director for Africa affairs in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and the Chadian delegation by Marc Berinaye, director of international cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

In the speech he delivered on the occasion, the commissioner of state for foreign affairs and international cooperation urged the experts to tackle their job in such a way as to respond to the expectations of both parties.

In his reply, Gouara Lassou, Chadian minister of higher education, research and scholarships asked Citizen Yoka to convey to Mobutu Sese Seko, chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, and to the Zairian people sentiments of gratitude from President Hissein Habre and the people of Chad for Zaire's solidarity with Chad. He acknowledged that Zaire spares no effort to aid his country so that it can take its place once again in the comity of nations.

On the meetings of experts, Goura Lassou said he was confident about the outcome of the commission's meeting which had begun in an atmosphere of optimism and calm.

Earlier, the Chadian minister held talks with Yoka Mangono on the situation in Chad and examined with him the possibilities of Zaire's participation in the national reconstruction efforts undertaken by the Chadian Government. The two men are expected to meet a second time to continue the talks begun on Thursday morning.

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOYS APPOINTED-- Kinshasa, 29 Oct (AZAP) -- The president of the republic, has through presidential ordinances Nos 82-131, 82-136, 82-147, of 28 September 1982, appointed Bagbeni Adeito Zongeya, Mabolia Inengo Tra Bwato, Tumawaku Dia Bazika and Tomona Bate Tangale as Zaire's ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary to India, Morocco, Italy and Spain respectively. [Kinshasa AZAP in French 0945 GMT 30 Oct 82 AB]

NIGERIA

REPORTAGE ON MAIDUGURI, KADUNA, KANO, RIOTS

'More Than 350' Killed

AB291123 Lagos NAN in English 1108 GMT 29 Oct 82

[By M.J. Momoh and Olu Adeko]

[Text] Maiduguri, 29 Oct (NAN) -- Very reliable police sources this morning disclosed that out of about 110 anti-riot policemen drafted to quell the religious upheaval in Maiduguri last Tuesday, only 10 returned alive.

Investigations conducted by the News Agency of Nigeria revealed that the assistant commissioner of police in charge of operations, who is currently in the hospital sick bed from injuries sustained, was among those who returned alive.

The sources said it feared that the rest [words indistinct] or taken captive by the group of religious fanatics who invaded "Bulunkutu ward," an outskirt of Maiduguri metropolis.

The fanatics, it is learned, were methodical in their operations since they only release corpses of police and other innocent persons either when they get rotten or are tired of withholding the corpses. Their own corpses are scattered or are given befitten burial by those still alive.

Several police vans including ammunitions were seized by the fanatics who operate from their respective enclaves with very effective means of radio communication.

Meanwhile, a team of Nigerian Army has taken position in the affected area awaiting a presidential order to move.

When the News Agency of Nigeria visited the mortuary of Maiduguri General Hospital this morning, it was gathered that more than 350 persons have been killed in the riot. Hospital sources told NAN that 10 dead policemen were brought into the mortuary early this morning and that corpses were being brought in at least in every 20 minutes.

The sources said that all doctors at the hospital cancelled their engagements to attend to casualties in both the old and new theaters,

Meanwhile, the body of Alhaji Ishaka Yakubu, a superintendent of police, has been recovered and arrangements are being made to take him to Ankpa, Benue State for burial.

Also a male student of the school of health technology, Maiduguri, whose hostel is located at Bulunkutu is lying critically ill at the hospital following the gunshot he received in his hostel.

Reports say that the fanatics have spread to other wards in the metropolis such as Bolori layout, Gwange and Ibrahim estate. NAN reports that mass burial has started.

Disturbances in Maiduguri Over

AB291744 Lagos NAN in English 1740 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Maiduguri, Oct 29 (NAN) -- Religious disturbances which erupted on Tuesday in "Bulunkutu ward" of Maiduguri metropolis, caused by a group of religious fanatics are now over.

Peace returned to the city today afternoon through a combined efforts of police reinforcement from Bauchi, Gongola, Kano, Plateau and their Borno State counterparts.

At about 3.00 p.m. today, newsmen were conducted round the scene (?of the) affected area by Borno State police public relations officer, assistant superintendent of police, A. Adegbite.

Police are still keeping sealed lips on the causes and motives behind the riot.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Bulunkutu ward, which used to be a busy and rowdy area is now desolate.

NAN correspondent also reports that many houses were burnt down to other properties.

Borno State police command is expected to give details soon.

Meanwhile an assitant inspector-general of police "B" department, force headquarters, Lagos, Mr Victor D. Pam, said in a press statement in Maiduguri today that the road from Maiduguri to Kano via Bulunkutu is now free and safe for public use.

Similarly, he said that the Maiduguri airport which was closed down following the disturbances is also safe and normal flight could resume immediately.

Commissioner on Kaduna Riot

AB300628 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] There has been another report of a bloody religious riot, this time from the Tudun Wada area of Kaduna. It was started after yesterday's mosque prayers by an unidentified armed group of people. The rioters were said to have set several houses on fire. The state police commissioner, Alhaji Hamza Usman Katsina, confirmed the incident and said he was yet to assess its magnitude. He said he would employ the use of helicopters to identify the troubled areas of the city. The motive of the rioters is yet not known, but it is believed that they were acting in sympathy with the Maiduguri fanatics.

Details on Kaduna Riot

AB300838 Lagos NAN in English 0834 GMT 30 Oct 82

[By John S. Elaigu]

[Text] Kaduna, Oct. 30 (NAN) -- An assistant commissioner of police, Mr. K. Yakubu and a police sergeant are missing after yesterday's riot by a group of religious fanatics in Kaduna.

The state police commissioner, Alhaji Hamza Usman Katsina, told newsmen in Kaduna last night that another police sergeant abducted by the fanatics "later came back in a battered hand."

Alhaji Hamza said that the "number of civilians and fanatics killed in the riot was not yet known."

Alhaji Hamza explained that the crisis started when some policemen went and searched some houses at the Rigasa area of the state capital.

According to the commissioner, the police had information that about 200 men entered Kaduna on Thursday in a group from Maiduguri and that the police was interested in knowing their mission.

Alhaji Hamza further said that while the command was contemplating on what to do, "The missing senior police officer went ahead and conducted the search which sparked-off the trouble."

He said that as at last night, three people suspected to be religious fanatics were arrested by the police.

Alhaji Hamza said that, "Since the use of force on religious fanatics failed in Kano, Maiduguri", he intended to use "dialogue" to resolve the Kaduna crisis.

He expressed the fear that because of the problem of identification between the "Derikagn Izala and the fanatics", it might not be safe to apply force.

The police boss however said that night patrol and road-blocks would be mounted in Kaduna as from today and assured the public that the situation was under control.

A NAN correspondent in Kaduna reports that life was now returning to normal in the city as hundreds of people who fled their homes yesterday have started returning.

Further on Kaduna Riot

AB301425 Lagos NAN in English 1420 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Kaduna, Oct 30 (NAN) -- The Kaduna commissioner of police, Alhaji Hamza Usman Katsina, told newsmen today in Kaduna that 16 civilians had been killed in the religious riot which started yesterday.

Alhaji Hamza also confirmed that an assistant commissioner of police, Mr Karimu Yakubu, and one police sergeant, who were missing since yesterday, had been killed by the fanatics.

He said that with the assistance of local vigilante groups, the bodies of the two men were recovered from the troubled area.

Members of the vigilante groups have organized themselves into search-parties for the purposes of recovering corpses of victims and apprehending fanatics who are still at large.

Alhaji Hamza had earlier told newsmen that the inspector-general of police was sending a reinforcement of mobile policemen to Kaduna to help handle the situation.

He explained that members of the vigilante groups would be asked to withdraw as soon as the reinforcement arrived.

Meanwhile, the affected parts of the town remained tense as armed policemen took positions at strategic points.

Vigilantes Control Traffic

AB310857 Lagos NAN in English 0842 GMT 31 Oct 82

[By John S. Elaigu and Jacob Olukoshi]

[Text] Kaduna, 30 Oct (NAN) -- Vigilante groups today took over the control of traffic in Kaduna and were searching vehicles for hidden weapons following yesterday's outbreak of violence, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

Members of the group, armed with clubs, daggers, pickaxes and other assorted weapons, were functioning as auxiliaries to the police, whose presence on the streets of the city was minimal. NAN correspondents who went around the city reported that traffic hold-ups were noticed along the major routes.

A source told NAN that although the vigilante groups appeared disciplined and well-coordinated, certain elements among them have taken advantage of the situation to "settle old scores." An eye-witness told NAN that the burning of a building along Ibrahim Taiwo Road suspected to house a secret society was the "handiwork of these freelance vigilantes."

Efforts by NAN correspondents to obtain up to date casualty figures at the Ahmadu Bello University teaching hospital in Kaduna failed as several of the victims were burned at the sites of the disturbances.

Residents of the worst affected areas of the city have expressed fears that a health problem might ensue following the failure of the Kaduna Municipality Health Authority to remove decaying corpses which have left a bad odor.

[Words indistinct] between the fanatics and the vigilantes.

Muslims Rampage in Kano

AB301350 Lagos NAN in English 1340 GMT 30 Oct 82

[By Erbert Okpi and Roland Udih]

[Text] Kano, Oct. 30 (NAN) -- A group of Muslim students today in Kano went on a rampage burning down churches in various areas of Kano municipality, following their disagreement on the citing of a church near a mosque in Fegge [words indistinct].

The disturbance which started at 9:30 am in the city spread into the Sabon Gari area of the town causing panic at the market and other parts of the town.

News Agency of Nigeria correspondents who visited the affected areas report that armed policemen firing tear gas on the demonstrators while some roads were sealed off to contain the situation.

The state deputy police commission Mr Emmanul Eltgh has taken over the physical command of the operation.

Contacted, the state police commissioner, Alhaji Sani Wali, confirmed the incident and told NAN that when the police got the [words indistinct] church area failure by the students to get to their target caused them to spread into the streets in Sabon Gari to burn down other churches.

Alhaji Sani said it was too early to assess the extent of damage adding that the main occupation of the police at the moment was to restore law and order so as to bring the situation under control.

He further said that no death has been reported.

Kaduna Reported Quiet

AB310930 Lagos NAN in English 0919 GMT 31 Oct 82

[By John S. Elaigu]

[Text] Kaduna, 31 Oct (NAN) -- All is now quiet after two days of religious riot in Kaduna, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

During the riot which started on Friday more than 16 people were killed and several houses burned.

The News Agency of Nigeria reported that following police failure to intervene, local vigilante groups armed with assorted weapons engaged the "fanatics" and wiped them out. Yesterday, all vehicles plying the streets of Kaduna were thoroughly searched by the vigilante groups who policed the city.

In a statement in Kaduna last night, the state commissioner of police, Alhaji Hamza Usman Katsina, announced that police have taken control and advised the vigilante groups to withdraw their services immediately.

An assistant commissioner of police, Karimu Yakubu, and a police sergeant were killed by the "fanatics" during the riot.

Governor Sets Aid Panel

AB301155 Lagos NAN in English 1140 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Maiduguri, Oct. 30 (NAN) -- The religious disturbances by a group of fanatics in Bulunkutu ward, Maiduguri, are now over, and there is peace in the town, the police said.

This is due to the combined efforts of the police commands in Bauchi, Gongola, Kano and Plateau.

At about 3.00 p.m. yesterday, newsmen were conducted round the affected area by the Borno police public relations officer, Assistant Superintendent of Police A. Adegbite.

The police have also announced that the road to Maiduguri via Bulunkutu is now free and safe for public use and that the Maiduguri airport, closed down following the disturbances, is now safe for public use.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Bulunkutu ward, which used to be a busy place, is now desolate as many houses have been burnt down.

Meanwhile, the state governor, Alhaji Mohammed Goni, has set up an 11-man panel to look into the problems of people displaced from Bulunkutu areas as a result of the disturbances.

The state government has also approved 15,000 naira for the recommendations.

A Government House statement in Maiduguri yesterday named the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Rural and Community Development, Alhaji Adamu Daya, as chairman of the committee.

The statement said that some of its members would be drawn from the army, police, Ministries of Finance, Works and Housing as well as the governor's office.

Others will be drawn from the Borno Emirate Council, Health Management Board, Maiduguri Metropolitan Caretaker Committee, the Red Cross Society and the Water Board.

The committee will, among other things, assemble those displaced at a safe location and arrange for their feeding and cater for their health.

Members of the committee have, therefore, been directed to obtain all the necessary materials needed for the assignment from all the ministries concerned.

Requests Aid for Maiduguri

AB310945 Lagos NAN in English 0933 GMT 31 Oct 82

[By Olu Adeko]

[Text] Maiduguri, 31 Oct (NAN) -- Governor Mohammed Goni of Borno yesterday appealed to the Federal Government to declare Bulunkutu ward on the outskirts of Maiduguri metropolis a disaster area, following damages done to lives and property by religious fanatics.

The governor has also urged the Federal Government to grant relief aid to the victims of the disturbances.

Alhaji Mohammed Goni, who made the appeal when he visited the affected area, was conducted around by the state commissioner of police, Alhaji Tahiru Judda. He commended the efforts of the police in bringing the situation to control, adding that the police had done a good job despite what he called "inadequate and up-to-date equipment and facilities at their disposal."

Meanwhile, the 11-man emergency relief operations committee set up by the state government has appealed to all the victims of the religious disturbances to report immediately at Aliaskiri primary school in the state. The chairman of the committee, Alhaji Adamu Daya, said that the victims would be provided with relief materials and medical care. Alhaji Daya also announced that Aliaskiri and Mafoni primary schools have been closed down until further notice.

Government Comments on Riots

AB010653 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The federal government has commented on the religious disturbances in Kaduna and Kano States. In a statement yesterday, the executive office of the president said the fanatics involved in the Kaduna uprising escaped from Maiduguri by mistake. It added that there is now calm in the area with the Kaduna police in effective control of the situation.

Forty-four people, including 2 policemen, died during the Kaduna incident. And in Kano State, the statement blamed members of the Muslim Students Society and some postprimary institutions in the municipality for masterminding the disturbances.

Details of Kaduna Violence

AB010615 Paris AFP in English 0346 GMT 1 Nov 82

[By Francois-Xavier Harispe]

[Text] Kaduna, Northern Nigeria, Nov 1 (AFP) -- Heavy police reinforcements and roadblocks and a few burnt-out buildings and cars are the only signs that remain of four days of religious violence which shook this northern city last week.

The local pro-government daily, NEW NIGERIAN, reported the official death toll as 22 in the fighting between local police and members of the Islamic fundamentalist Maitatsine sect who drove the 600 kms (375 miles) west here from Maiduguri, where far more bloody religious clashes took place a few days earlier. Rumour, however, put the toll at 40.

Cars were being stopped on entering the city to ensure they did not carry hidden arms. Four buildings which housed the headquarters of Masonic Lodges were burned down.

They were suspected by the private militias which sprang up briefly during the troubles as being likely to habour "dangerous sects." The lodges had aroused unease because they held their meetings at night.

Witnesses said two policement killed by the Moslem fanatics had had their eyes put out and tongues cut off according to the traditions of the Maitatsine sect.

A local resident belonging to the Ibo people of eastern Nigeria, who were massacred here by northerners on the eve of the Nigerian civil war in 1967, said people had been terrified during the disturbances last week and that panic had quickly shut down the city.

But he said the militias had appeared and helped the police and normality had soon been restored.

Several militiamen had been killed by the "crazy" fundamentalists, armed with bows and arrows, who believed they were magically protected from bullets and so defied all police warnings, he said.

Further north in Kano, where more than 4,000 people were killed in fighting involving the Maitatsine in December 1980, there was panic over the weekend that new such violence was about to erupt.

Against a background of reports of the religious fighting in Maiduguri, where the DAILY SKETCH newspaper has put the death toll at 452, and of the smaller incidents in Kaduna, apparent Moslem zealots, angry at the building of an Anglican church "too close" to a mosque, Saturday burned down four churches, several bars and a number of vehicles in the city.

Local police, who used tear gas against the rioters, said only about a dozen people had been injured, including a policeman, and several dozen arrested. But Radio Kaduna said two people had been killed. Police said they could not be sure the rioters were Moslem fundamentalists.

PAPERS ON MAITATSINE SECT, TRADE WITH RSA

AB300954 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] THE DAILY TIMES is highly disturbed by the explosion of religious fanatics in Maiduguri, Borno State. The paper laments that in spite of the precautionary measures by most of the northern state governments in introducing preaching permits to check fanaticism, the Maitatsine men were able to organize again and succeed in causing another havoc. THE TIMES therefore suggested that the Federal Government should ban the sect and set up a strong intelligence network to pick out the members and prosecute them, stressing that it must be firm in dealing with those agents of violence and instability.

THE NIGERIAN TIDE examines the role France and other Western countries are playing in South Africa and concludes that they are hypocrites. The paper wonders why those countries oppose sporting links with the racist regime while on the other hand they maintain trading links with it. THE TIDE condemns this double standard and appeals to those countries to impose economic embargo on South Africa if they really want to see the end of apartheid.

TOGO

BORDER WITH GHANA CLOSED; NO REASON GIVEN

AB291717 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpt] Togo has closed its side of the border with Ghana at Aflao, the Ghana News Agency reported today. According to the agency, no reason was given for the closure, which took effect from Sunday. The Ghanaian Government last month announced the closure of its borders with Togo, Upper Volta and the Ivory Coast in order to enable it to enforce certain economic measures to curtail smuggling, currency trafficking and black marketeering.

ANGOLA

SOURCE SAYS PRISONER SWAP WITH RSA 'POSTPONED'

AB291334 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Excerpts] Luanda, 29 Oct (AFP) -- Plans for Angola and South Africa to swap prisoners in Lusaka, Zambia, today have been postponed, according to diplomatic sources here.

The swap, which was negotiated between officials from Pretoria and Luanda, would involve Angolan, Soviet and Cuban prisoners held by the South Africans, and two mercenaries, an American pilot and the remains of three South African soldiers held by Angolans. The source said that negotiations were continuing.

Several exchanges of prisoners have taken place between Angola and South Africa since 1978. In September of that year, three Cuban soldiers were swapped for eight South Africans, and last August 10 Angolan militiamen and 10 Angolan prisoners of war were discreetly released by Pretoria.

A reliable source here said that the United States and the Soviet Union are both very interested in the exchange and were understood to be encouraging the pursuit of negotiations. Outstanding differences could be resolved in the next few days, the source said.

MADAGASCAR

MINISTER DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH CUBAN ENVOY

MB300811 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Aldo Pena Enriquez, Cuban ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Madagascar, was received today by Bruno Rakotomavo, minister of information, ideological orientation and cooperatives.

The discussions focused on cooperation in the information sector, particularly radio, television and press agencies. Aldo Pena Enriquez stressed that the Cuban Government hopes for development and strengthening of bilateral relations in radio and television. The Cuban diplomat said Havana is ready to send television and radio technicians. It is well known that Cuba is more advanced and developed in this area.

Cuba also hopes for more active cooperation in the exchange of information through press agencies. The Cuban press agency, Prensa Latina, is willing to offer its information services. The diplomat stressed that in his country the mass media plays a very important role in educating and informing the masses.

Rakotomavo assured the Cuban ambassador of his support regarding the accomplishment of his mission in Madagascar. It is with joy, he said, that we accept your proposals, because we must admit that we have little information on Latin America.

MAURITIUS

BERENGER GIVES VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT CRISIS

MB310658 Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 22 Oct 82 p 6

[Excerpts] "Either I remain where I am -- the government continues, the economy can still be salvaged and I help from where I am -- or the government is reshuffled, some things change, and a homogenous, honest and brave government in which I can be proud to participate is formed."

Paul Berenger, former finance minister, deputy of the Mauritian Militant Movement [MMM] Political Bureau, who held a press conference yesterday in the lunchroom of the Legislative Assembly was very clear in expressing his wishes concerning the conditions for an eventual return to the MMM/PSM/OPR [Mauritian Socialist Party/Organization of the Rodrigues People] government.

Very much at ease and expressing himself in a strong voice sometimes filled with humor, Berenger, who emphasized that he was giving his personal views, returned the ball to the court of his party's Central Committee and mainly to the MMM Parliamentary Group by asking them to assume their responsibilities. "The supreme interest of the country demands that all MMM parliamentarians as well as the Central Committee correct the situation before it deteriorates."

"Everything is still possible," said Berenger, who added that these responsibilities should be assumed "today (yesterday) or at the latest tomorrow (today)."

According to Berenger, recently there was, in fact, what he called "friction" between the MMM and the PSM, which "prevented the smooth running of the MMM/PSM/OPR government." This friction demobilized the population and turned its attention away from the country's fundamental problems. Berenger emphasized later that this friction was not the main cause of the current crisis.

According to the former finance minister, the main cause of the crisis was the government's economic strategy, proposed by the then finance minister and adopted and enforced by the government since the budget presentation of July 30. Berenger says it was then "normal" that his political rivals, "the Labor Party" and other similar groups, play the demogogic card and accuse him of "serving the IMF and the private sector."

"But things became serious when these stupid remarks started being echoed within parliament circles that are part of the majority government," said Berenger.

Berenger said the Ministerial Council knew the scope of the task assigned to him and it is exactly for this reason that he made references to "low blows and treachery."

"Some people who were well aware of all this and who knew that this task demanded a lot of effort chose this moment to start protesting against what they had voted for at the Ministerial Council meeting of 8 October and to start portraying me as someone at the service of the IMF and the private sector, while they were at the service of the common man. It is not even high treason; it is low treason," stated Berenger, saying there was a "campaign of professional intoxication" which finally "created doubts in the prime minister's mind." This intoxication succeeded in "isolating" Berenger from the prime minister and from "others".

MINISTER COMMENTS ON CONFLICT WITH BERENGER

MB300725 Port Louis L'EXPRESS in French 22 Oct 82 p 7

[Excerpts] Kader Bhayat, minister of commerce, industry, prices and consumer protection, yesterday told L'EXPRESS that he is ready to cooperate in finding a solution to the problem that he says he did not create.

[Question] Is it true that you threatened to join the Mauritian Socialist Party [PSM] if the prime minister took some sanctions against you, that you said you could become the vice president of this party?

[Answer] This is completely false. That is a rumor intentionally spread by my adversaries. I have absolutely nothing to do with the PSM. I am with the Mauritian Militant Movement [MMM] and intend to remain there. In the past, people wanted to create confusion by associating me with the PSM. The truth is that I did not want to follow the policy of those who absolutely wanted to create a confrontation between the MMM and the PSM. I respected the promises made to the people when we formulated our political platform together. I quote: A promise is sacred.

[Question] Why did you resign and then allegedly withdraw your letter of resignation?

[Answer] I never submitted my resignation and I have no intention of resigning. After hearing the so-called charges against me by Paul Berenger, the prime minister, Mr Aneerood Jugnauth, renewed his trust in me; and I will remain at my post. The day I do something wrong, I will leave on my own accord, before the prime minister asks me to do so.

[Question] Is there any possibility of a quick solution to this conflict?

[Answer] Some mutual friends are trying to solve the problem, which -- I repeat -- I did not create. I am ready to cooperate, but I will not allow anyone to step on my toes. I already have said that Paul Berenger is a friend. In my opinion, he deviated from the task we both have to accomplish. I hope all this will end soon. I have always been close to the labor force and I am sure that the workers now appreciate that I always have been on their side.

SOUTH AFRICA

POW EXCHANGE REPORT CALLED 'COMPLETELY UNTRUE'

MB300909 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The South African Department of Foreign Affairs has described as completely untrue a newspaper report that a South African prisoner of war was to be exchanged today in a prisoner exchange in the neutral zone near the Angolan border. The report said that two Soviet airmen, some Cuban soldiers and more than 90 Angolan prisoners were to be handed over in exchange for the South African, who has not been named. The Soviet airmen involved were said to be a pilot and his mechanic, who said they were civilian employees working for the Soviet airline, Aeroflot, when they were captured by UNITA forces. The South African Department of Foreign Affairs said there was no substance to the story whatsoever.

PFP 'STRONGLY' REACTS TO PASS RAIDS IN CAPE AREA

MB291455 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The Progressive Federal Party [PFP] has reacted strongly to the series of pass raids in the Cape. Already 2,000 people have been arrested for pass offenses in the past month. Catherine Thompson reports:

The arrests only increased racial polarization, according to Ken Andrew, PFP spokesman for black affairs in the western Cape. The raids impoverished people who were already poor, and provided more potential recruits for those who have taken up arms against the government, he told the ARGUS newspaper. And, he said, Dr Piet Koornhof, minister of cooperation and development, knew full well the raids were futile and would not deter blacks from coming to the western Cape.

Andrew called on organizations and individuals in the western Cape to speak publicly against the Colored labor preference area policy and what he called "these inhuman pass raids."

More Arrests Reported

MB300912 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The Western Cape Administration Board has arrested 50 more people in a series of pass raids. From Cape Town, (P.G. Hofmeyer) reports:

The latest pass raids took place early yesterday morning in (Blaauwberg), (Tableview), (Potchdam) and (Flamingovlei). Those arrested are being detained for the weekend and will appear in the Langa commissioner's court on Monday. The number of pass arrests in Cape Town in the past 4 weeks now totals more than 2,000. More than 50,000 rand in fines have been collected. The board has said that the raids are routine and denies that it is conducting a campaign against what the government regards as unlawful blacks.

U.S. CRITICISM OF NAUDE BANNING ORDER CITED

MB301012 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The American State Department has criticized the decision by the South African Government to ban for 3 more years the cleric Dr Beyers Naude. The chief spokesman of the State Department, Mr John Hughes, said banning was a fundamental violation of human rights. He said banning was contrary to the most essential democratic political rights and only contributed to a cycle of violence and repression. Dr Naude was first restricted in 1977 in the aftermath of the Soweto riots.

ZIMBABWE

BOTSWANA PRESIDENT CONTINUES STATE VISIT

MB291704 Harare Domestic Service in English 1615 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The visiting Botswana leader, President Masire, today continued his 5-day state visit to Zimbabwe by attending a luncheon held at the National Sports Center and given by the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe. Earlier today, Dr Masire had inspected units of the 5th Brigade in Inyanga before returning to Harare.

Throughout his stay in Zimbabwe, Dr Masire's message has been one of an appeal for unity among the people of this country. He also warned that tribalism and division can expose the region to attacks by the Pretoria regime, whose policy of apartheid is unacceptable to independent Africa.

Presidential Luncheon Remarks

MB291844 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, says the call for unity among all Zimbabweans should take root, especially in the fact of regional aggression by South Africa. He was speaking at a luncheon he hosted for the visiting president of Botswana, Dr Masire, at the National Sports Center today.

Comrade Mugabe said the government is determined to pursue its policy of national reconciliation. He said the government's policy of national reconciliation would be pursued with the objective of united Zimbabweans. The prime minister thanked the Botswana leader for having sown the seeds of unity among Zimbabweans.

In reply, Dr Masire, criticized the international news media for creating a distorted view about the situation in the country. He said most coverage of events in Zimbabwe had been extreme.

Dr Masire also said his country is committed to making the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC, a success. He noted that since Botswana and Zimbabwe share a common border, historical relations between the two countries are bound to succeed. Before leaving for home tomorrow morning, at the end of a 5-day visit, the Bosawana leader will sign a cooperation agreement with the Zimbabwe Government.

Agreements Signed

MB301215 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Zimbabwe and Botswana today ended bilateral talks with the signing of cooperation agreements in trade, energy, transport, manpower training and security. The agreements marked the end of the 5-day visit to Zimbabwe by the president of Botswana, Dr Masire. Both countries agreed to maintain consultation in these fields. After the signing ceremony, the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, expressed the hope that the agreements reached will be translated into positive action.

In a joint communique issued after the talks, Comrade Mugabe and Dr Masire called for the restructuring of the world economic order. They said Third World countries should participate in an equal footing in solutions to international political and economic matters. They also condemned South Africa's acts of aggression against frontline states and affirmed their support for South African liberation movements, the African National Congress and the Pan-African Congress. On Namibia, the two leaders appealed to the international community to increase assistance to the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO.

Dr Masire was seen off at the airport by Comrade Banana, Comrade Mugabe, Cabinet ministers and members of the diplomatic corps.

Gaborone Report

MB311221 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1126 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The Governments of Botswana and Zimbabwe have signed an agreement establishing a joint commission of cooperation. The agreement came into effect yesterday morning soon after it was signed by President Masire and Prime Minister Mugabe of Zimbabwe. The signing ceremony took place at the guest house where the president was accomodated in Harare.

The objective of the commission is to strengthen and consolidate the existing political, economic and social relations between Botswana and Zimbabwe in the context of SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference]. The commission shall be responsible for identifying bilateral problems in order to encourage and promote development in the two countries. The commission shall from time to time establish such special and technical committees of officials it may deem necessary in the execution of its duties, and shall propose to the governments the necessary agreements in order to put into effect the cooperation between them.

The Botswana-Zimbabwe joint commission of cooperation shall hold a meeting at least once a year on any date convenient to the two countries, and may hold extraordinary sessions when necessary -- the meetings shall be held alternately in the two countries.